

The Middlebury Campus

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BLINDED BY THE LIGHT



AARON KELLY

A bonfire and fireworks show outside of Ross kicked off the annual Winter Carnival on Thursday, Feb. 23. Festivities over the weekend included '80s tribute band Orange Crush and a comedy show by TJ Miller. The festivities concluded in Nelson Arena with FunkMaster Flex's remixes of Top 40 hits. A slideshow from the weekend can be found at go/thecampus, in the Features section.

College voice coach arrested

By Adam Schaffer

Federal agents arrested Middlebury College voice coach Daniel Marcy on Monday, Feb. 27, for possession of child pornography, *The Burlington Free Press* reported. Marcy's arrest comes after serving as a part-time instructor for students over the past 16 years as one of several private music teachers the College partners with to offer instruction not otherwise available through the music department.

The arrest seemed to come as a surprise to the College community. Members of the music department were instructed not to

comment on the matter, referring all comments to Director of Public Affairs, Sarah Ray.

"While we have not received any complaints or heard any concerns from Middlebury students who have been referred to Mr. Marcy," Ray wrote in a statement, "we have suspended his engagement with Middlebury students this semester, and will not make referrals



Daniel Marcy

to him pending resolution of the criminal matter."

Marcy was found to be in possession of "about half a dozen" images of child pornography, which he admitted to looking at once every two weeks, according to affidavits obtained by the *Free Press*.

In addition to his work with the College, Marcy taught voice lessons out of his home and has previously taught at the University of Vermont (1999-2011) and St. Michael's College (1997-2004).

With additional reporting by Emily Singer and information from The Burlington Free Press.

Trustees meet at Monterey

By Emily Singer

The College Board of Trustees convened for a quarterly meeting at the Monterey Institute of International Studies (MIIS) in Monterey, Calif., on Feb. 16-18. This was the second time the trustees have met in Monterey, and the first since MIIS merged with the College.

The West Coast location allowed trustees to engage with MIIS staff and students, discussing the finances of both the undergraduate College and its non-undergraduate endeavors, including MIIS and schools abroad. The approximately 28 standing trustees in attendance passed a total of eight motions.

The trustees approved the comprehensive fee for the 2012-2013 academic year, which has been set at \$55,950. The new budget represents a 4 percent increase in the annual fee, which keeps with the College's dedication to raise fees 1 percent beyond the consumer price index.

Since the College made the decision to adopt a CPI + 1 (Consumer Price Index plus 100 basis points) policy, it has become easier for the comprehensive fee to be set earlier, according to President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz. In past years, the comprehensive fee has been decided upon after the February trustee meeting.

A refunding proposal for a portion of the College's long-term debt was voted upon, allowing the College to save millions of dollars down the road. The College's debt is fixed rate, meaning that annual payments have already been outlined, but due to low interest rates the College was given the opportunity to revise its debt payment plan.

The architectural design of the new indoor track and squash facilities was approved. The design approval is separate from the College's commitment to excavate the land to be built upon, which will depend on its ability to secure appropriate funding for the project.

A new Masters program at MIIS in International Education Management was also approved. In order to bridge the gap between East and West Coasts, a videoconference was held between the Middlebury's Faculty Council and trustees. Comparative faculty salaries, student workload and stress levels and the financial contributions of non-undergraduate satellite campuses, such as MIIS and schools abroad, were analyzed.

"We talked about some of the new ideas they had for revenue generation, including an English as a second language, so-called ESL, program down in Rhode Island this summer," said Trustee Fellow Rick Fritz '68, who serves on both the College and Monterey Board of Trustees. "Other ideas for customary language course teaching to generate revenue" were also discussed.

The decision to hold the February trustee meeting at Monterey was prompted by the desire to remind trustees of the missions and the functions of MIIS. "The focus is to familiarize the trustees, and in many cases, reacquaint them with the Institute, which is now a merged entity, and

SEE MIIS, PAGE 3

Faculty considers pass/fail option

By Ben Anderson

This fall, the Student Government Association (SGA) passed the Pass/Fail Resolution, which recommends that the Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) allow students to take courses for a grade of pass, fail or D.

At the February faculty meeting, the EAC brought up the issue for the first time, mentioning that they were beginning to formulate an initial proposal that they hope will be formally presented at the March faculty meeting.

The EAC, one of four general councils of faculty members, deals with educational policy at the College. The other three committees are the Council on Review, consisting of the Promotions Committee and the Reappointments Committee, which deals with faculty review, tenure, dismissal, etc.; the Faculty

Council, which acts as a channel of communication between the faculty and the president of the College; and the Appeals Council, which deals with the appeal procedure when a member of the faculty wishes to contest non-reappointment.

The EAC deals with proposals to add new majors or minors to the College's curriculum, applications from departments and other general changes to the College's curriculum or academic calendar. It also issues monthly reports at each faculty meeting.

The committee is composed of five faculty members elected by the faculty, along with Provost and Executive V.P. Allison Byerly. The five faculty members currently serving on the council are Professor of German and Head of Brainerd Commons Roman Graf, Professor of Spanish Miguel Fernandez, Associate

Professor of English and American Literatures Antonia Losano, Associate Professor of Physics Noah Graham and Associate Professor of History Kathryn Morse.

When discussing a resolution or proposal, such as the suggestion of implementing a pass/fail system, initial conversations on the topic take place. The EAC may try to research the issue and listen to input from faculty members.

"It is up to the EAC to do the homework," said Graham. "In this case, we'll definitely look at schools where such a program has already been put in place."

When a preliminary proposal is completed, it is proposed to the faculty, after which there is a mandatory month-long grace period. During this time, arguments for and against the pro-

SEE SUPPORT, PAGE 2

SLAM POETRY FILLS ATWATER



COURTESY: MACKENZIE BEER

Nine aspiring slam poets and over 100 raucous fans filled Atwater dining hall to capacity on Friday, Feb. 25, to debut the College's best poetic talent. Anna Gallagher '11.5 (above), Maya Goldberg-Safir '12.5, Abigail Borah '13 and Olivia Grugan '12.5 won spots to represent the College at the College Union Poetry Slam Invitational in California later this year.

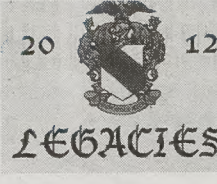
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BEYOND THE BUBBLE

BY BRONWYN OATLEY

According to a news broadcast on Monday by state run media station Channel One, Ukrainian officials have thwarted the attempted assassination of current Prime Minister, and leading presidential candidate, Vladimir Putin. The report comes mere days before the Presidential election will be held in Russia, timing which many believe to be suspicious.

State-owned Channel One reported that in early January that Ukrainian officials uncovered the plot to assassinate the Prime Minister. *The New York Times* explained however that Russian officials withheld the news report until February — just days before Russians citizens will take to the polls.

In an interview with the *Times*, the head of the St. Petersburg Politics Foundation, Mikhail Vinogradov, explained that uncovering such information mere days before the presidential election was “the ultimate way to mobilize apolitical voters who haven’t decided whom to vote for.”

Dmitri Oreshkin, political analyst for Echo Moskvyy radio station, was also harsh in his critique of the timing of the announcement.

“This is a sign that the real leaders of Mr. Putin’s political structure, the people from the Federal Security Service, are trying to mobilize public opinion according to the logic that we are surrounded by enemies and that we have one decisive, effective and intelligent national leader that they want to destroy,” he stated.

According to Channel One, a group of terrorists had planned to travel to Moscow and attack economic and political targets following the election. In an interview, one of the suspects stated that the group had planned to either plant explosives on the armored van of Putin, or use a suicide bomber in the assassination of the Russian political leader.

While the apprehended suspect did not state which political group he was officially affiliated, many have suspected that he was working for Docu Umarov, a Chechin separatist leader who has long resisted Russian rule. Umarov’s group has taken responsibility for other violence against the Russian state, including an attack on Jan. 24, 2011 at Domodedovo International airport, which left 36 people dead and 180 injured.

According to officials, seven separate assassination attempts have been foiled since Putin took power in 2000, a figure that many believe to be representative of a growing sense of political dissatisfaction in Russia. According to *Newsweek*, in his presidential bid this year Putin has faced his most significant political challenge. Over the past three months tens of thousands of protestors have mobilized in opposition to his presidential candidacy. Such protests reached their greatest level of fervor in December when over 100,000 people swarmed onto Moscow’s Sarkharov Avenue, demonstrations that represented the largest anti-government movement since the end of the Cold War.

While great in numbers, many have wondered whether the public displays of support carry over into the Presidential election. According to polls published last week, Putin has the support of nearly 60 percent of the population, a tally well over the 50 percent needed to avoid a runoff election.

A lawmaker for one of the official opposition parties, Gennady Gudkov, cynically described, “Everything is being done to assure Putin’s victory — that’s why information is being dumped so that everyone forgets about mass protest rallies, allowing at the same time to pick up a few points on people’s sympathy.”

Students challenge Exxon investment

By Sam Simas

In an effort to bring the College’s endowment in line with its commitment to social responsibility and environmental stewardship, the student-run Socially Responsible Investment Club (SRI), the Middlebury Student Investment Club (MiddSIC) and several other shareholders not affiliated with the College submitted a resolution to Exxon Mobil questioning the corporation’s involvement with the Keystone XL pipeline. A small portion of the College’s endowment is managed by MiddSIC, which invested some of that money in Exxon Mobil.

The resolution is an exercise of the College’s rights as a shareholder, which permits it to submit requests for changes in the company’s activities and behavior. The groups’ efforts mark the first time a college has filed such a resolution and a notable step toward making Middlebury’s endowment more transparent and sustainable.

In line with SRI’s main goals, the resolution aimed to make Exxon Mobil more sustainable and transparent.

Exxon “owns 69.6 percent of Imperial Oil, one of Canada’s largest oil companies,” the resolution reads. “Imperial is 100 percent owner of the Cold Lake oil sands project ... [and] there are significant environmental, social and economic risks associated with oil sands.” The co-signers of the resolution ask that the “board prepare a report discussing possible short and long term risks to the com-

pany’s finances and operations posed by the environmental, social and economic challenges associated with the oil sands” by August 2012.

Access to such information, the co-signers hope, could impact whether or not certain shareholders will continue their investments in Exxon. Significant roadblocks exist, however, as Exxon is currently challenging the resolution in court. Despite this road bump, Grugan has been reassured by the other co-signers that “they are optimistic about the chances of succeeding against Exxon” in court. If a resolution does not fit certain stipulations set down by the Securities and Exchange Commission, it can be challenged and rejected by the company before the shareholder meeting. If the students do succeed and the resolution is presented at Exxon’s May shareholder meeting and accepted, Middlebury will be one of a select few liberal arts colleges ever to be successful in passing a shareholder resolution.

Although shareholder rights take a backseat to SRI’s original goals of making the endowment more transparent — the majority of the endowment is currently managed by an outside firm, and the details of where the money is invested are not known — they will continue to search for other shareholder resolutions to co-sponsor. Their main goal remains re-investing the endowment, particularly the \$4 million they were permitted to re-invest last April, in more sustainable enterprises.

COLLEGE SHORTS

COMPILED BY JOSH KRUSKAL

Percentage of Americans with Bachelors hits record high

Over 30 percent of all U.S. adults today possess bachelor’s degrees, the highest recorded level in the nation’s history.

According to survey data released by the Census Bureau, 30.4 percent of Americans over the age of 25 have bachelor’s degrees, and 10.9 percent have graduate degrees. The figures represented a significant increase in educational attainment among adults, and reflect a trend that began in the 1990s when college enrollment rates began to grow, according to *The New York Times*.

The census data also showed that the education gap between men and women is shrinking. In 2001, men with bachelor’s degrees outnumbered women by 3.9 percent. Today that difference has been shrunk down to 0.7 percent.

The survey also revealed that engineering and the sciences are the most common areas in which students pursue bachelor’s degrees, with 34.9 percent of all degrees awarded in these fields.

—The New York Times

Supreme Court to hear affirmative action case

The Supreme Court agreed on Tuesday to revisit a 2003 decision that supported affirmative action in state college admissions. The new case was brought by Abigail Fisher, a student who was denied admission to the University of Texas at Austin.

Fisher claimed that because of the university’s race-conscious admissions procedure, applicants who may have been less qualified than herself were admitted to improve campus diversity.

In 2003, the Court ruled five to four on the side of affirmative action in a case involving a University of Michigan law school applicant. According to *The Wall Street Journal*, Fisher’s case stands a good chance of overturning the precedent set in 2003 because of the high court’s current conservative majority.

If the Court rules in favor of Fisher, state colleges could be compelled to change their admissions procedures, no longer taking race into account when considering applicants. The court will likely not hear the case argued until October, rendering its decision in early 2013.

—The Wall Street Journal

Support grows for pass/fail proposal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

posals are heard, with any changes that are deemed necessary made. The faculty as a whole then votes on the proposal.

These new discussions on the Pass/Fail Resolution differ from discussions of past years. There has been an attempt to move the discussion of the pass/fail option into a dialogue on non-graded work at the College. Some members of the faculty have suggested the possibility of integrating pass/fail with other non-graded credits, such as Advanced Placement credits and internships. Students would be allowed to complete a certain number of non-graded credits throughout their time at the College. With this proposal, students would choose how to use their non-graded credits toward their degree, if at all. So far, however, these discussions are only in their infancy.

Sentiments toward the program have largely echoed past opinions, although support for the program seems stronger than it has been in the past. According to Graf, many faculty members are asking, “If pass/fail gives students an opportunity to branch out, what’s to be held against it?”

However, many of those opposed to the program remain vehemently so. An argument against the program new to Graf is the idea that specific classes may often be chosen as pass/fail, which would change the dynamics of the classroom.

“Let’s say the cap of a class is 20 [students]. If you have 10 students taking the class pass/fail, the class suffers from the ‘C’ mentality, instead of the ‘A’ mentality,” Graf explained. It is this perceived potential exploitation of the system that worries some professors.

Depending on the input it receives, the earliest that the EAC will present their proposal would be at the next faculty meeting, which will take place in March. Full debate and discussion will begin then, with additional changes possibly to follow. The faculty could vote on the issue as early as April.

MCAB's WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

Trivia Night

Test your knowledge at the Grille
THURSDAY 9-11 P.M.

Free Friday Film

Hugo will be shown in Dana Auditorium
FRIDAY AT 7 & 10 P.M.



MIIS students share experiences

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

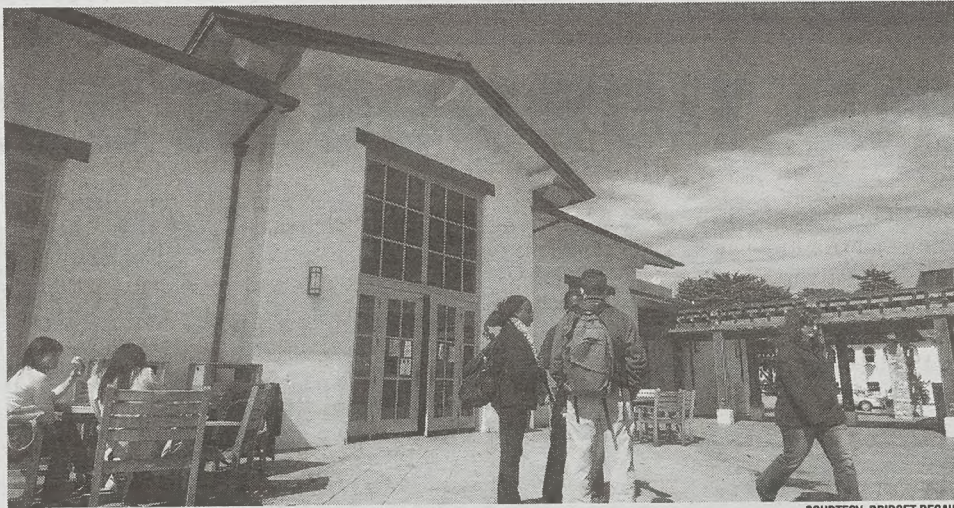
a rather significant one as part of the overall Middlebury enterprise," Fritz said.

"[In the seven years] since we've engaged in Monterey, [it] has become a different institution in important ways," said Liebowitz of the evolution of MIIS. "It's one that has greater confidence, one that's financially more secure, and also one in which the quality of students is getting stronger ... I think the board came away from the meeting with a much greater understanding of the relationship with the Institute, of the possibilities in the future and also what the Institute is doing today."

A panel of current MIIS students and alumni was held to teach trustees about the Monterey experience. Facility tours and classes in environmental policy were also made available.

"It may be some time before we go out again," said Fritz. "But now that we've re-educated some of the trustees who were on the board six, seven years ago, and the newer trustees now have a sense of what Monterey is about and the opportunities it provides."

Fritz said that MIIS has exceeded the College's expectations as an "additional auxiliary school," citing its streamlined programs and renewed focus on its strengths



COURTESY: BRIDGET BESAW

The Board of Trustees meeting at MIIS, pictured above, reflected Middlebury's new focus on the Pacific region and its internationally-focused graduate school.

as helping to improve the school's educational experience and to promote future expansion.

"We've already admitted Middlebury students there," said Fritz. "That's not the reason why we made this commitment, but it's gratifying to see the reception of Middlebury students to the Monterey experience in the fields where Monterey can add value."

The trustees will reconvene at the College in May to approve the 2012-2013 budget and the financial model that has been put in place for the next five years. With the comprehensive fee for the upcoming academic year approved, committees will be able to analyze its influence on the College's budget and how it will allow for possible salary increases and programmatic enhancements.

Veguary pledge draws almost 400

By Kyle Finck

The Eat Real Campaign, a group of eight students trying to bring a greater understanding about where the College buys its meat, has initiated a program donned "Veguary," where students have pledged to be vegetarian, pescatarian, or flexitarian (eating as little meat as possible.)

At the time of print, 398 people had taken the pledge, according to Alice Oshima '15, a student leader of the campaign. Fifty-nine percent have pledged to be vegetarian, 9 percent to be pescatarian and 33 percent to be flexitarian.

"We don't want no meat. We just want better meat," she said. "The specific purpose of Veguary was to send a message to the administration that Middlebury stu-

dents care about where their meat comes from and want to see greater quantities of higher quality meat."

The campaign, comprised of students from all four classes, was started in mid-January.

Oshima said that the top three reasons people cited for their pledge were the environment, animal treatment and personal health. Students have taken the online Veguary pledge at go/veguary. To promote the program, involved students produced a video outlining the program and have put banners on many dining hall table placeholders.

The group started after reading a survey by the Organic Garden in the fall of 2011 outlining that over 99 percent of the

meat in the College's dining halls come from large, non-local factory farms.

"We want to change that," said Oshima. "We are not trying to convert everyone to vegetarianism, but rather make them more conscious of where their meat comes from and what the environment and health effects of this are."

Oshima said the campaign understands the extra financial burden of buying local meat, and said the group will continue to fight for more food money to fund local meat.

"We understand local meat is more expensive, and will be fighting this spring, and for however long it takes, to increase the school's budget for meat purchasing," she said.



OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY AUDREY TOLBERT '13

Rome, Italy

Over one of my first weekends in Poitiers, France, where I studied this past fall semester, all the students in the Middlebury program took a trip to stay with our French student aid and friend Arnaud and his family in nearby Cognac, France. The date was late September, which fell right in the middle of harvesting season for Arnaud's family, who owns and maintains numerous vineyards for the production of cognac. Arnaud wanted to show us the whole harvesting process and thought it would be nice to spend a late summer weekend with his family.

We spent a wonderful weekend in the picturesque vineyard-covered landscape, swimming in their pool, eating delicious food, learning all about the process of making cognac and *bien sûr*, drinking our fair share of it as well. It was truly the perfect introduction to study abroad; I could already see the write-up on the Middlebury website, with a picture of me on top of a tractor driven by Arnaud's uncle as he harvested grapes in the rolling French countryside.

This is why on the way home from this trip, when we stopped to fill up Arnaud's car with gas, I was so astounded (and slightly annoyed) when one of the students in my program got out of the car to take pictures of the gas station. We had just spent an amazing weekend fully immersed in the French culture, and here he was acting as touristy as one can get by snapping photos of the gas pump and the car wash.

While I still roll my eyes a little when I think of this anecdote, I am starting to understand my friend's motive behind this silly action.

When we begin our time abroad, everything seems new and different, which can cause us to act a little naïve at times and make us look upon these new countries as something of wonder and excitement. It's what makes us take millions of photos of the most trivial things like the different kinds of cars, the different grocery stores, the different toilets and yes, the different gas stations. It's a very joyful part of our semester, a sort of "honeymoon phase."

Fast forward five months and I am now starting my second semester abroad in Rome, Italy and I have yet to take a picture of any gas stations. In fact, I have yet to take a single picture of the city at all. In many ways, I feel as though I have lost that novel part of studying abroad. The small size of every car on the street, the non-refrigerated boxed milk and the two-flush system of every toilet no longer excites me. And while these are facets of daily life that France and Italy share in common, I think I have stopped taking notice of the differences as well.

One may interpret this phenomenon as quite sad, pointing out that we should take more time to appreciate the little things in life. They may say that if you are able to marvel at such trivial things, then you will certainly be profoundly impacted by the larger and more impressionable cultural experiences. This is very true. However, the biggest and most important differences I came to observe and experience between Middlebury and my semester in France were not these little things. I feel as though it would have been a very boring and not worthwhile semester if that had been the case. Rather, the true learning and most meaningful experiences came once that wonder had passed.

So I am choosing to interpret this loss of the novelty of study abroad as a very positive change. It is my hope that I will start to truly experience the Italian culture much sooner than when I first arrived in France, which will leave me more time to explore Italy even deeper.

There is always so much more to learn and experience from a new place. And I am excited to see what I can do here in Rome in the next five months. I sure won't be wasting any time taking pictures of gas stations.

PUBLIC SAFETY LOG FEBRUARY 22-27, 2012

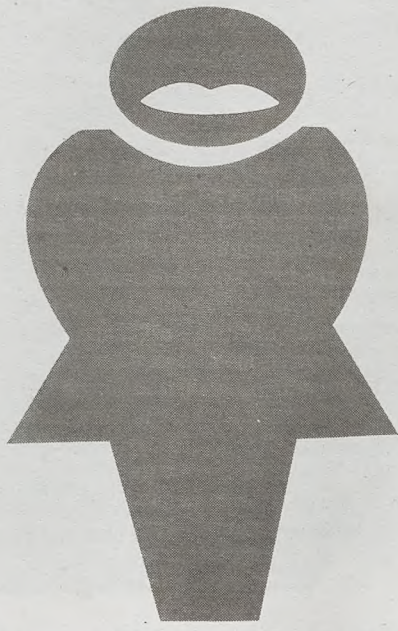
DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
2/22/12	5:41 p.m.	Unlawful Trespass	Juice Sprayed on Property	Gifford	Referred to Commons Dean
2/23/12	9:13 p.m.	Noise Disturbance	Winter Carnival Fireworks	Bicentennial Way	—
2/23/12	Unknown	Theft from Residence Hall	Student Removed Bed	Off Campus Location	Case Closed
2/23/12	Unknown	Vandalism	Graffiti	Forest Hall	Open
2/25/12	11:23 p.m.	Agency Assist	Dept. of Liquor Control	Athletic Complex	—
2/25/12	11:23 a.m.	Property Lost	Lost Pencil Pouch	Davis Family Library	Open
2/26/12	6:54 p.m.	Vandalism	Tipped Over Vending Machine	Pearsons	No Suspects

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 13 alcohol citations between 2/22/2012 and 2/27/2012.

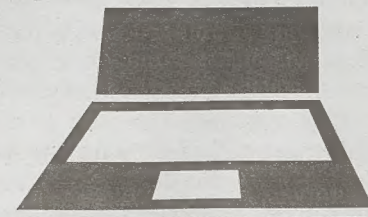
1 SEE SOMETHING



2 SAY SOMETHING



3 SEND SOMETHING



DO YOU HAVE A TIP OR AN IDEA FOR A STORY?

GO/THECAMPUS



BRUCE AND HOBBS WAKE US UP

By Molly Talbert

If you wake up early enough, you can sit in Proctor, sip the acidic coffee, and listen to the Wake Up Crew with Bruce and Hobbes on 92.1 WVTM, based out of Middlebury, Vt. Bruce Zeman, General Manager, "Top Dog" of WKVT and host of the station's morning show, loves his job.

"It is a lot of fun," he said. "It is the best job you can have, it really is. We change people's lives here."

Zeman, with Hobbes, his cinnamon-colored Dachshund, campaign against bullying, domestic violence and animal cruelty among other issues. They visit schools and go to many events in Addison County promoting awareness and bringing support to their causes.

Although Hobbes isn't a frequent topic of conversation on Middlebury College's campus, once you are aware of him, you'll see him everywhere — most notably in the several large hay bale sculptures of him on the side of Route 7 raising awareness for the Addison County Humane Society.

But, it doesn't stop there — Hobbes is truly an historical dog. He was the first dog ever to be allowed in the Vermont House of Representatives, where he was recognized for his work on behalf of animals and is an official member of the Middlebury Police Department.

"Just to put it in perspective," said Zeman. "He was locked up in a kitchen for three years, starved, beaten, and now he's probably the most famous dog that Vermont has ever had."

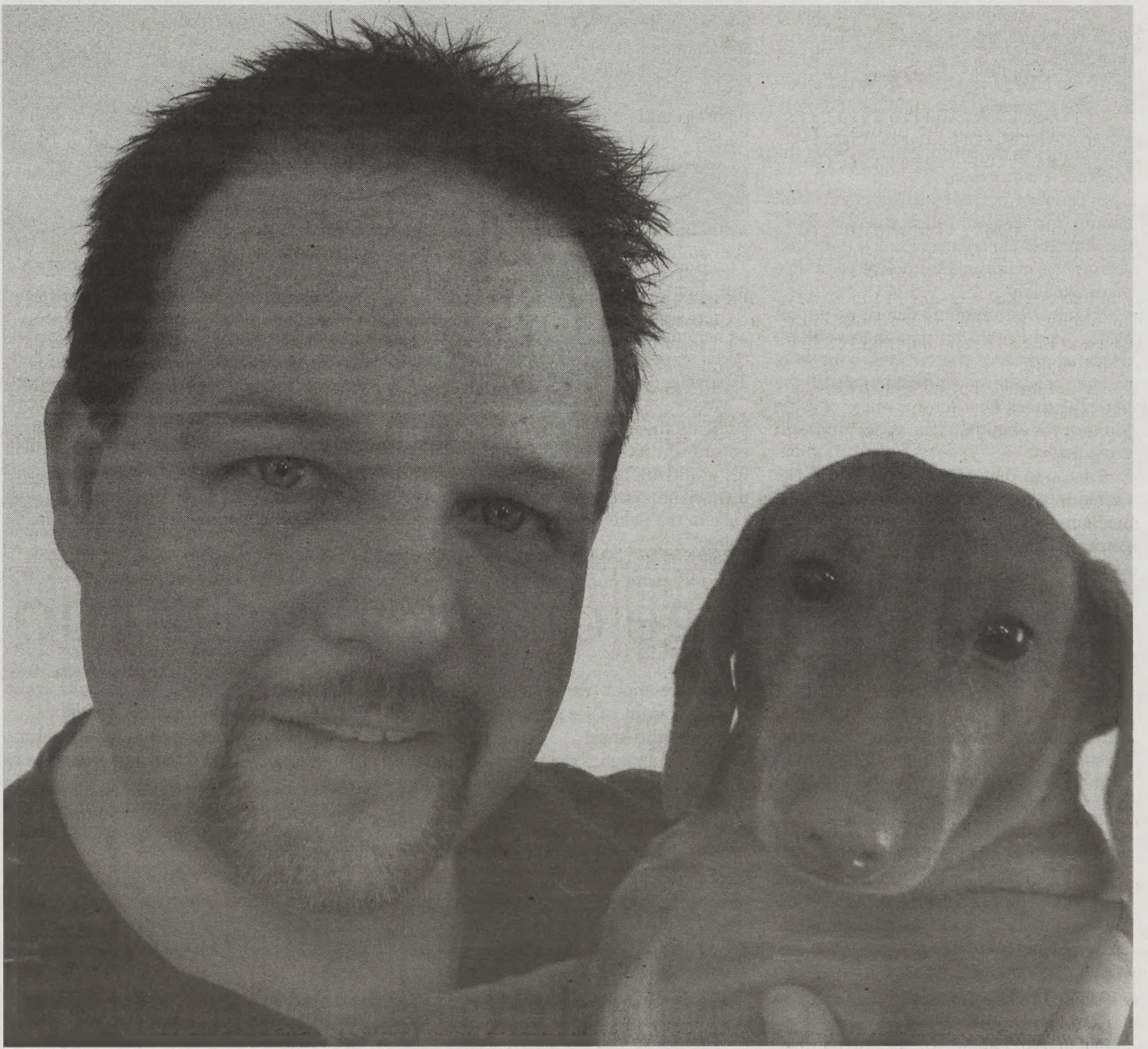
Hobbes wasn't originally part of WVTM's wake up show and Zeman never intended for him to become such an integral part of the station.

"I have been an animal activist for 25 years," said Zeman. So, when the Addison County Humane Society called him and told him that they had a very badly abused Dachshund that they wanted him to take a look at, he did.

"My family has owned Dachshunds for 50 years," said Zeman. "We did not want another dog but he was in such terrible shape that I couldn't leave him there. He had been beaten badly and was bleeding from a bunch of places."

So, Zeman called his wife and together they adopted Hobbes.

"I came on the radio the following



COURTESY

Bruce and Hobbes pose together in their official publicity photo. Bruce takes Hobbes everywhere with him.

day and just started talking about him," said Zeman. "I never had any intention of making him part of the show. I didn't want to make it look like I was exploiting him, because I'd never do that."

The reaction from his listeners — some 70,000 to 90,000 people in this part of Vermont and parts of New York — brought Hobbes to the center stage of the morning show.

"People started calling, and emailing and facebooking and saying you need to do more with him and talk about his story," said Zeman. "So, we gradually made him part of the show."

It is hard to change a show that is already in place — it takes time and money — but, in the end, Zeman and the people of WVTM decided that they could use Hobbes as a way to bring awareness to a wide array of issues, including animal abuse, domestic violence, child abuse, and any other issues that needed a voice.

"So, we made him part of the show and it just exploded," said Zeman. "Our listenership went through the roof. And, since then, he's been part of the morning show for two years now and it is very popular. He is the driving force behind the show."

Now, with his fame, Hobbes is the "poster dog" for many causes such as Cash for Paws for the Humane Society, where he helped raise \$12,000 this year. During this fundraiser, Bruce and Hobbes were on the radio for three days and played any song that was requested.

"Some of them were pretty bad," said Zeman. "I had to sing the National An-

them. I sang 'How Much Is That Doggy In The Window,' which was not good, believe me. But, somebody donated \$500 for me to do it, so I sang [it]."

It is events such as Cash for Paws and the amount of time that Bruce and Hobbes spend visiting schools and events that

really show the sense of loyalty and devotion that they have to the community.

"Pandora [and internet radio] isn't about community," said Zeman.

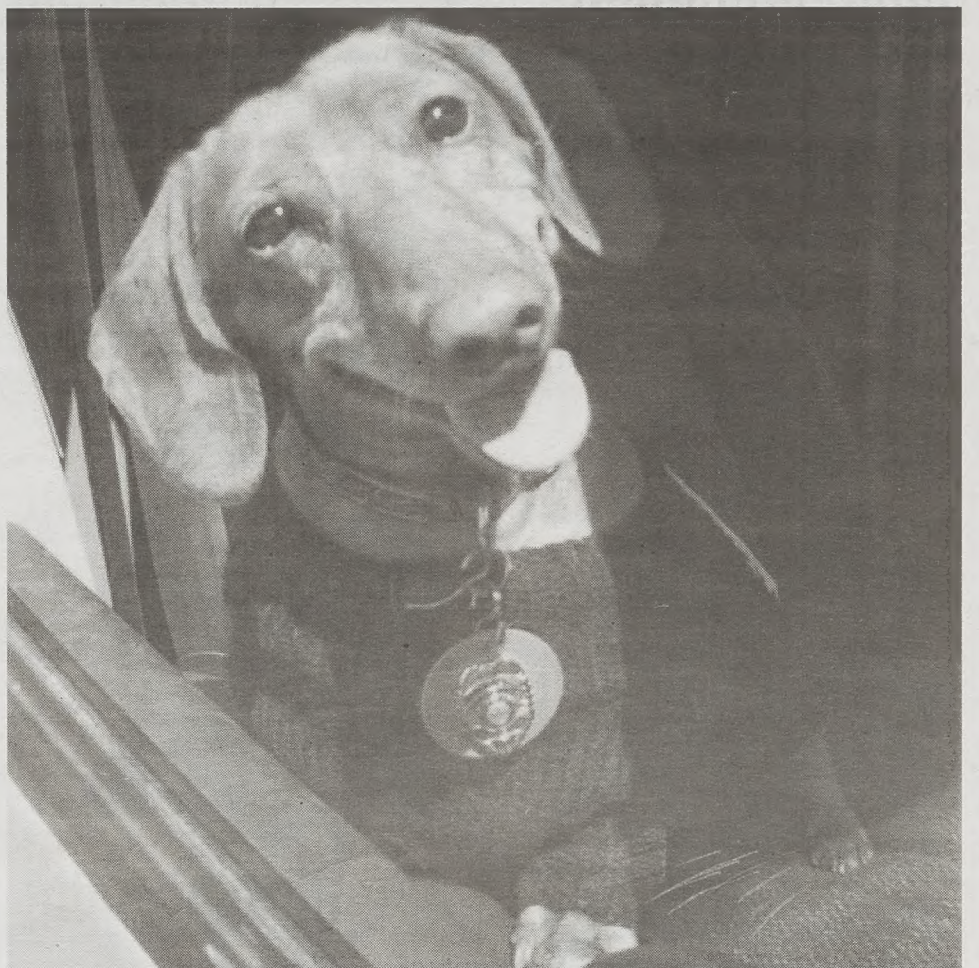
But, he's not worried about his listeners converting to Internet or satellite radio.

"We're the only station that has Hobbes."



COURTESY

Hobbes working hard in the studio.



COURTESY

Hobbes in his official Middlebury Police Department uniform and badge.

Local metal band rocks on

By Stephanie Roush

Often the idea of a high school metal band elicits visions of headache-inducing noises and wannabe punk rocker kids trying too hard to make a sound more complex than their capabilities. Ground Zero is not this band.

Last weekend, six Middlebury students went to the Hub Teen Center in Bristol, Vt. to see a metal show advertised in the *Campus* the week before.

"I saw this tiny ad in the newspaper, ripped it out, and was like, we have to go," said Matt Ball '14.

After assembling some friends together and getting lost a couple of times, they finally found the Hub, which looks more like a graffiti-covered military bunker than a music venue.

Ball admitted that his initial expectations for the show were quite low, "I was expecting the sort of high school scene that I grew up with," he said. "But they exceeded my expectations big time."

Ground Zero formed in November 2010 in a high school music class. At first, their sound leaned more toward punk than metal until a show they saw together at the Hub convinced them that heavy metal was the music they were meant to make.

Originally consisting of four members, the band added their fifth member last February: Matthew Mullin, younger brother of the drummer, Scott Mullin. Matthew may only be 13 years old, but the kid has major swag. His performance exudes a type of confidence rare in a 13-year-old boy. You can see his sly smile right before he starts to sing that seems to say, "Go ahead, laugh, cause I'm about to blow your mind."

In fact, the band is chock-full of budding talent with not a member over the age of 17. Most of the band members, with the exception of their rhythm guitarist, Wallace, have been playing their respective instruments for less than five years, making fans excited to see what they'll be capable of in another five years.

When asked about whether or not it's hard to be taken seriously being such a young band, they tell me that it's something

they face everyday.

"It sucks cause older bands often judge us, but then we start playing and you can just see their eyes get really wide because they definitely didn't see it coming," wrote the band in an email.

The Middlebury students who attended the show spoke of the same sensation when seeing Ground Zero live. Ball described the other bands playing at the show at the Hub as having more of a mall-core sound "marketable to teenage middle America girls who shop at Hot Topic."

"Ground Zero was better," he said. "They stood out."

The band's name comes from the many times they hung out as a group and engaged in what they called the "highly childish activity" of throwing snow balls at cars passing by.

"If someone ever stopped or got mad at us we would start running and yell 'Back to Ground Zero!'" they said.

And while they don't recommend throwing snowballs as a recreational activity, the name Ground Zero stuck. Although

the name comes from high school shenanigans, it also conjures up images of 9/11 and hints at the delicate balance that Ground Zero achieves in their sound. Their sound is simultaneously heavy and melodic, and the band stresses the importance they place on the writing of their music. They want it to be meaningful, and have a lot of fun. For the members of Ground Zero it's less about making money than it is about gaining a fan base and putting on a good show.

"We aren't here to make money," they said. "We're just here to play good music and convince people to not give up on music because music will never give up on you."

Ground Zero is currently in the process of recording an EP that will be out sometime in May or June of this year. The band plays at least two shows a month and are going to be playing a show at the Mill in March. The Mill show will feature Ground Zero with College student band Goat Pack as the opener.

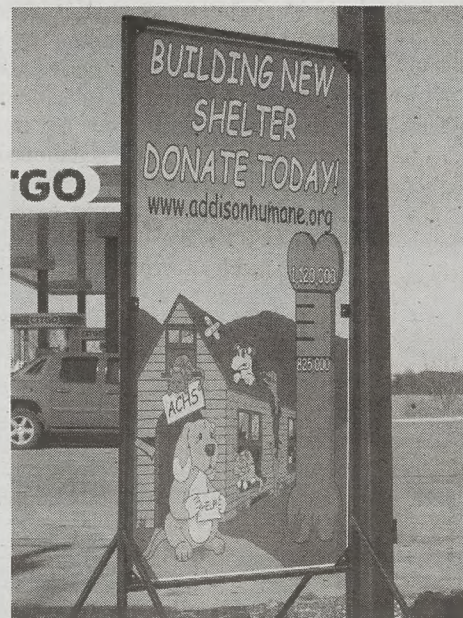
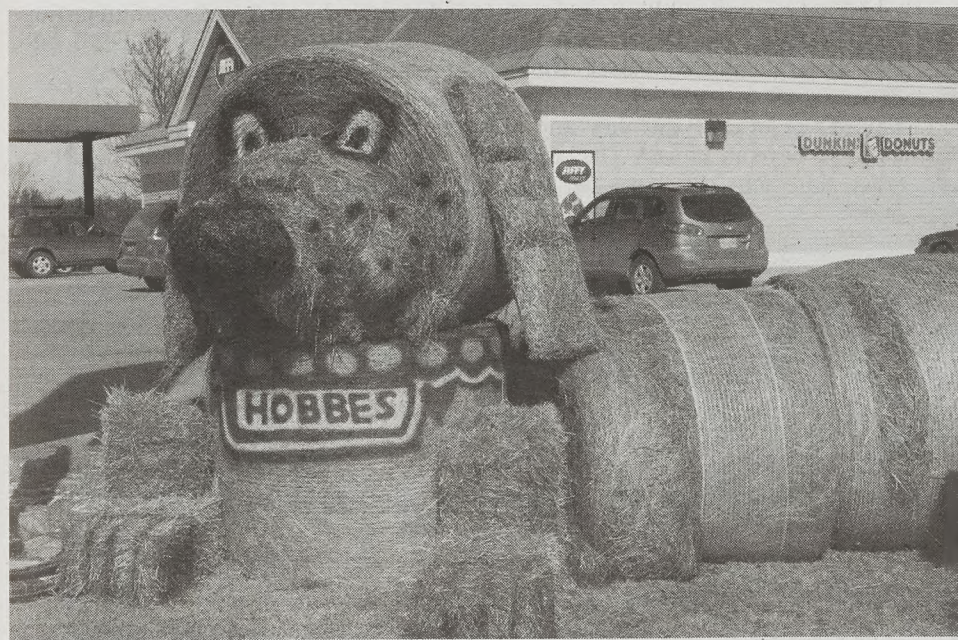
"It's going to be a great show," said Ball.



COURTESY

Ground Zero will be playing a show at the Mill this March.

Hay bale art supports Humane Society



MOLLY TALBERT

Vermonters show their support of Hobbes and the work that he does for the community by constructing sculptures of him out of bales of hay — known as "hay art." These constructions can be seen on the side of Route 7 North out of Middlebury and are used to promote fundraising for the new animal shelter that is being built in Addison County by the Addison County Humane Society.

LOCAL LOWDOWN

24

"HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE" SCREENING

Grab your wand and hop on your broomstick to head over to a screening of the first Harry Potter movie at the Vergennes Opera House. Harry, Ron and Hermione were so cute back then — what happened? Sponsored by the Ben and Jerry's Foundation. For more information, call (802) 877-6737.

MAR. 2, 7:30 P.M. — 10 P.M.

CONCERT AT RIPTON COMMUNITY COFFEE HOUSE

Have fun and enjoy music for a good cause! Rani Arbo and Daisy Mayhem will be performing followed by an open mic at the Ripton Community Coffee House off of Route 125. Refreshments are to benefit Otter Creek Daycare. Admission is \$9 for general audience, \$6 for seniors and teens and \$3 for children. For more information, call (802) 388-9782.

MAR. 3, 7:30 P.M.

CHRISTOPHER BAKRIGES TRIO CONCERT

Ready for a night of live jazz music in Bristol? The suave jazz trio with Chris Bakriges on piano, Brian Kornfeld on drums and Rich Mollin on bass will be performing their original work and new arrangements of jazz standards as well as dabble in fusion. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Call (802) 453-3188, line 2, or at walkover@mac.com.

MAR. 3, 8 P.M. — 10 P.M.

A CAPPELLA CONCERT

Still can't get enough a cappella? Dartmouth College's oldest a cappella group, the Dartmouth Aires, will be performing at Town Hall Theater along with Middlebury College's all female a cappella group, the Mischords. Tickets are \$20 and available through the THT box office. Call (802) 382-9222 or www.townhalltheater.org.

MAR. 4, 7 P.M. — 9 P.M.

BLOOD DRIVE

Be a good person and give blood! All presenting donors in March will receive a coupon for a free lunch pack at Cumberland Farms, a \$5 coupon from Freihofer's Bakery Outlet, a vintage-style Red Cross first aid kit, and the satisfaction of saving someone's life. So, go on down to the American Legion in Middlebury and give blood! More information at www.red-crossblood.org or 1-800-RED-Cross.

MAR. 6, 10 A.M. — 4 P.M.

HISTORY PRESENTATION

Professor T.H. Breen of Northwestern University will argue in the Ilsley Library that the American people established the foundations for an enduring civil society without the guidance from the Founding Fathers during a period of extraordinary political turmoil. A First Wednesdays presentation of the Vermont Humanities Council.

MAR. 7, 7 P.M. — 9 P.M.

OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

Unanswered questions

The EDITORIAL

represents the official opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* as decided by the editorial board.

What do we, the collective Middlebury College community, know about our institution's endowment?

Well, it is, roughly \$860 million. It is managed for us by a company called

Investure, based in Virginia.

And that's about where the facts end and the questions begin.

Of course, not all of us are asking these questions — and that's fine. Not everyone on this campus needs to know how the College spends its every dime. Not everyone wants or cares to know. But a vocal contingent of the student body, led by the student

organization Students for Responsible Investing (SRI), has made it clear that they would like to know what our College is doing with its near-billion dollar fortune. And the fact that they cannot find out is troubling.

Currently, our endowment is controlled by an investment management firm that imposes strict confidentiality on the investments it makes with our money. They are currently under the orders of Middlebury College to turn a profit — and they are doing that. This is not, in itself, objectionable — after all, the College ultimately is a for-profit institution. However, it is not only a for-profit institution; it is also an institution that espouses values that many of its students, faculty and staff strongly identify with.

Among the College's stated values are diversity, sustainability and global citizenry. Though certainly not all of us share these values, a significant portion of the students and faculty at this school have made a choice to seek out an institution that appears to share the values that we carry with us on an individual level.

It is understandably important to those of

us who do buy into these institutional values — and for those who don't, we expect you still have some vested interest in what companies are benefiting from your tuition money — that we know what effect our significant endowment is having in the country and world at large. It's not that we are convinced that our endowment is being invested in companies that conflict with our values, it's that we simply have no way of knowing, and no way of finding out. None of us — not even Ron Liebowitz himself — can tell you what our endowment is being invested in. That's a problem.

It isn't just our endowment that continues to evade our scrutiny. We are also kept largely in the dark in regard to the source of our food — mainly our meat products. Veguary, an initiative led by the new student organization Eat Real, is actively seeking to call attention to this deficit in our awareness that is of paramount importance to many people who call this campus home.

Just as we don't know where our endowment is going, we do not know where our meat comes from (except that

it is far away from here). The incredible cooperativeness and transparency that Dining Services has provided can take us only as far as what they themselves know, and unfortunately not even they are privy to the starting location of our meat products. Shipping meat to Middlebury from all across the country conflicts generally with the stated institutional value of sustainability, and directly contradicts our mission to be carbon neutral by 2016. While we may ultimately achieve carbon neutrality on our remote and isolated campus, the fact that this calculation does not include the immense carbon footprint that we incur through our food-shipping practices is something that, at the very least, merits questioning.

We are encouraged by the SRI, Eat Real and other inquisitive student organizations who refuse to accept the veil of secrecy placed over College practices that may or may not be in keeping with its stated values. If we claim to care about these values — and, indeed, to hold them ourselves — how can we, in good conscience, allow such questions to go unanswered?

The Middlebury Campus

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Middlebury's new Ally?

Over the past few months I have been thoroughly disheartened by the way fans, athletes and members of the media have used homophobia, violence and racism in an attempt to discredit and demean the accomplishments of others. Two weeks ago, I wrote a column on the apparent rise of violence in sports, not just at the national level but also in Division III athletics. In particular, the use of homophobic slurs to demean athletes and fans has been disturbing. While some people regard fan harassment as an unfortunate but inexorable part of the game, there should be no tolerance for homophobia in athletics. Fans and athletes alike should be held

accountable for their language, which too often reverts to its basest form in the heat of competition.

NOTES FROM THE DESK

Damon Hatheway '13-5

is a sports editor from London, England.

In January 2011, Hudson Taylor, a student-athlete at the University of Maryland, founded Athlete Ally — a program that calls on fans, athletes and coaches alike to “respect every member of their communities, regardless of perceived or actual sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.” Taylor, who was a three-time All-American wrestler at Maryland, created Athlete Ally to combat the homophobia he encountered during his wrestling career both in college and in high school. Since its inception just over a year ago, Athlete Ally has become an official partner of the NCAA and has been adopted by more than 30 colleges and universities nationwide. Middlebury should be next.

“In a lot of different facets the college is about respect and dignity and that's what Athlete Ally promotes — understanding and sensitivity for all people,” head men's basketball coach Jeff Brown told me.

While homophobia permeates society at large, the emotions of athletes and fans coupled with the visibility of athletic competition creates an atmosphere that is susceptible not just to homophobic comments but ignorant and harmful statements generally.

“Spectators really go over the line sometimes,” Brown said. “In a lot of cases [comments are] made in such a way that they're trying to be funny but a lot of times there's very little sensitivity in terms of the remarks made during athletics contests.”

“I think the nature of athletics brings out the best and the worst of people because of the emotional frenzy that occurs,” said head football coach Bob Ritter. “When you're a fan or a player you want to say something that has significant impact. I think that's why fans go to that lowest common denominator pretty quickly because it's raw, it's emotional and they know it's going to have an impact. They look for what statement can have the biggest punch and I think that's unfortunate.”

That spectators continue to use homophobic language is concerning, given how much progress has been made for LGBT rights over the past few decades.

“I think there was more concern 20 and 30 years ago simply because people were not educated in the way they are today,” said men's hockey coach Bill Beane. “There have been a number of brave people who have come out

and made statements and the positive reactions that they have received empower others to do so as well.”

While a number of professional athletes have come out in the last decade such as former NBA player John Amaechi, they have done so only after retiring. Notably, in 2011, current NHL player Sean Avery spoke out in favor of LGBT activism, and many national writers believe that the first active LGBT athlete will come out in the near future.

There is, therefore, a tremendous opportunity for athletes, coaches and fans to further promote an open, welcoming environment for all athletes regardless of race, ethnicity or sexual orientation.

“I think athletics is a great area where you can try to promote change and understanding, and student-athletes certainly can have a big impact in terms of the climate of the campus,” Brown said. “The goal would be to make it a more comfortable place for everybody through education and communication. I think the campus really could rally behind something like this.”

While Athlete Ally is focused on increasing understanding in the realm of athletics, its potential impact at Middlebury would extend far beyond the athletics department. Anyone can take the pledge on Athlete Ally's website and learn more about an organization that started with one student-athlete's desire to make athletics more accepting of all its participants.

“Not only do I think [Athlete Ally] could be [implemented], I think it will be embraced by the athletes and the coaches when they really get a chance to look at what this stands for,” Beane said.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DAVIS AND ARMSTRONG LIBRARY

DAVIS

— If I plan this out right, I should be able to finish all my reading and homework by 10 p.m.!



ARMSTRONG

— If I plan this out right, I should be able to finish all my reading, labs and lab reports by 5 a.m.!



BY DYLAN LEVY

MEN'S LAWS, WOMEN'S BODIES

Despite their best efforts to frame it this way, the recent controversy over the requirement that employers provide coverage for contraceptives to their employees is not about religious freedom. The supposed oppression of rich, white Christian men in this country has become a common theme among the pundits of the Right for years now, and it's always been a bizarrely ludicrous claim. Even Newt Gingrich took a break from fantasizing about moon bases and zero gravity blowjobs to declare piously that "President Obama has declared war on the Catholic Church," something the Church would be uniquely qualified for given the number of wars it has launched throughout history.

APPLY LIBERALLY

Zach Dallmeyer-Drennen '13.5 is from Canandaigua, N.Y.

This President has, of course, done nothing of the sort; these spurious attacks from the right are nothing but a cynical ploy to cast doubts on Obama's commitment to their whitewashed version of the Judeo-Christian tradition. Organized religion in this country enjoys more loopholes, more exemptions and more influence than any nation outside of Saudi Arabia. Churches are tax exempt; every politician must, as a matter of practicality, take the oath of office on the Bible; and a full two-thirds of the funding for Catholic charities comes straight from the taxpayers' wallet. As with any other organization receiving public money, that money cannot be used in ways inconsistent with the interests of this nation and its taxpayers. Since a full 98 percent of Catholic women admit to using birth control at one time or another, the taxpayers have clearly spoken.

The fact that contraception is at odds with the tenets of some religions in this country does not make funding requirements an assault on religious freedom. No law seeks to require churches to provide condoms and birth control pills in their lobbies. People who personally oppose the use of contraceptives have an extremely easy solution: don't use them. Have bushels of kids. In fact, the tax code heavily incentivizes this. That's how freedom is supposed to work, not in the perverse sense where "freedom" actually means the opposite. Despite what Republicans might have you believe about the ever-present Obamamonster, the Constitution guarantees this right will persist. Which is more important — the freedom of

women to control their own bodies, or the freedom of fundamentalists to limit the money that the federal government generously awards them from ever going towards buying the pill?

Indeed, if they're honestly concerned about reducing the abortion rate, about reducing unwanted pregnancies, and about poverty, Republicans should support family planning and other such preventative measures. More women taking the pill and more men using condoms means fewer unplanned pregnancies and fewer abortions. Instead, we've seen a shocking assault on women's rights from male Republican Senators, old Republican billionaires and even "Komen for the Cure." At a time when the Republican Party badly needs to win back the soccer moms who propelled Bush to a second term, conservatives like the ever-frothing Senator Santorum have instead launched a war on the rights of women that Romney has had no choice but to timidly join. Romney's advisers must be panicking, realizing that even if they do win the nomination they've set themselves up for a landslide defeat. Sex and freedom, it turns out, are among the most universally popular things in America.

Santorum, as the old joke goes, is one of the most forward-thinking minds of the 13th century. He regularly goes on the record to state that he does not believe in a right to privacy or the separation of church and state, and would not hesitate to impose his own values on the rest of the country, creating a nation familiar to readers of Margaret Atwood's dystopian novel *The Handmaid's Tale* where women must once again die in back alley abortions, cannot serve in the military or the workplace, and must welcome pregnancy by rape as "a blessing from God." He believes in a world where gay men and women can once again be both persecuted and prosecuted for consummating their love, and where sexual desires are a shameful test by the devil. If you watch him in one of the 67 debates, his face is constantly straining with the mammoth effort of all that repression.

Incidentally, Romney and Santorum both use the rhythm method — with their wives, not with each other — which seems to work astonishingly well: they have, respectively, five and eight children, which they have the freedom to do because President Obama is not waging a war on religion, freedom or religious freedom anywhere except in the minds of a bunch of terrified old men.

Continuing debate on responsibility

To the Editor,

Kathryn, thank you for your reply last week ("The time for personal responsibility!" Feb. 16). While we do not claim that the list of grievances in our first article fully applies to every student, everyone we have spoken to so far has experienced more than one of the effects we listed due to their workload. When we started writing about workload at Middlebury, I was expecting to be called irresponsible and lazy. I am very happy that you brought up the issue. I found this to be an opportunity to clarify our intentions in demanding less work.

I use myself as an example to clarify what kind of people are leading this initiative: I am from Iran. In my country, students of our age are leading the revolutions and reformist movements. They are imprisoned, they are tortured and some of them are killed. I am not sure how many Middlebury students can actually become that responsible to sacrifice their life for their goal.

Some people argue that the workload at Middlebury prepares you for the challenges in the real world. The thought that reading loads of books and writing papers will really prepare us for the real world is a very naive perspective and shows that our understanding of the real world is just a dream and not realistic. I have worked in the U.N. in Afghanistan before coming to Middlebury as a Special Assistant for the head of the department. I know how the real world looks like and what are the real challenges and it is not anything close to our experiences in Middlebury.

The issue is not about being able to complete our work; we are students and we know how to play the game. We all manage our workload somehow, but this is not the GOAL. We are here to learn, and we believe having loads of homework is not the best learning method. In fact, we want to take responsibility. We demand less work to be able to learn more effectively and to have enough time to reflect on what we learn. If a professor assigns seven to eight books for a class plus loads of e-reserve articles, it is not the best method of education; there is a gap in our education system because we do not have time to take what we learn and put it into action. Due to the amount of work, there is no space for students to engage practically with their new understandings. The question is, what should we do with all the information that we gain?

We do not think the best way of evaluating students' learning is through

writing. If students want to study political science, Middlebury should not discourage them and kill their interest because they may not be talented enough to express themselves through 10 pages of writing. We have spoken with many students who told us that they have left courses with too much work, as you suggested they should, despite their passion and interest for the subject. This is a disgrace.

Professors and students could instead provide equal opportunities for all types of learners. For example, take the MALT model and have students work with organizations doing powerful community-building work in a specific area. A sociology course could take students into the field for a week, a political science course could collaborate with Senator Leahy's office and an economics course could try implementing alternative methods of capital. We take pride in our education system at Middlebury by stating that we learn how to think critically. As such we believe that all students can be critical and creative when asked what alternatives they would like to see in the classroom.

Many responses to our previous article have focused on the nature of student life, claiming that everyone knows what Middlebury will be like when they come here. We would like to challenge that notion, and submit that as students we have a responsibility to make our education here the best that it can be. Do we all really think that the current model is the best possible model? Think about the hundreds of different ways that you could possibly learn material compared to the relatively few methods currently in place at Middlebury.

We resist that the best method of education is to write and to read. We want a lighter workload so that we can pursue other opportunities to be more creative. We want to take more responsibility and tell our professors what we like, and how we like. And we believe in ourselves and the fact that we have this power. We believe "taking personal responsibility" means engaging with the system to change teaching methods, level of work, etc. to provide all students with equal opportunity so that they can enjoy their academic passions.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Fayezeh Haji Hassan '14 is from Iran and Sam Koplinka-Loehr '13 is from Ithaca, N.Y.

week in tweets



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@middtwitt Middlebury, VT
<http://www.middlebury.edu>

Follow

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Tweets Favorites Following Followers Lists



middtwitt middtwitt

and by "otter nonsense" do you mean that time that barista totally fucked up my vermonter order???



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and by "neat repeats" do you mean finally finding a way hook up w that hot sophomore again???



middtwitt middtwitt

and by "karin hall-kolts" do you mean that maniacal cyborg slowly brainwashing us w subliminal messaging via all-school housing emails???



middtwitt middtwitt

and by "orange crush" do you mean that cute red head i always see in proctor???



middtwitt middtwitt

managed to only throw up a little at the gym today post atwater mexican for lunch! #middvictory



middtwitt middtwitt

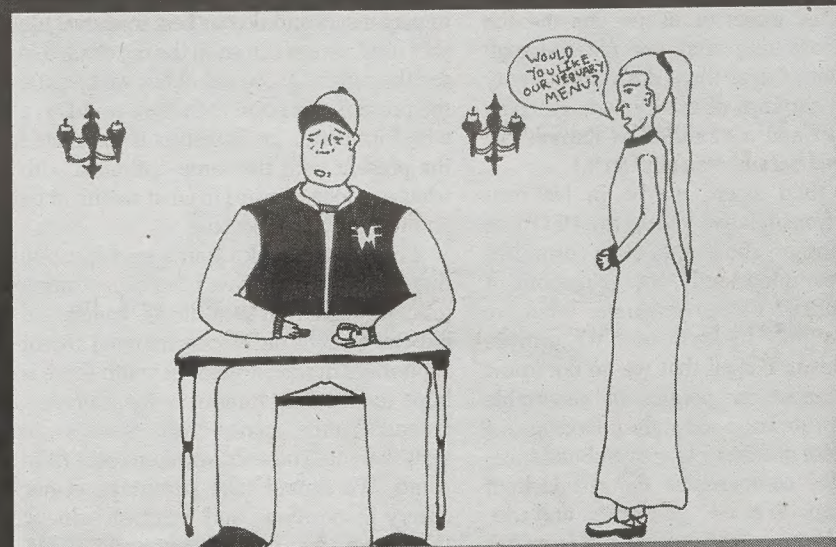
remember when we actually thought we'd be good at the riddim workshop?? #termmemories

Recent images by middtwitt



middtwitt middtwitt

just got to the middlebury inn ... WHERE THE F*CK AM I??? #predictingFunkMasterFlextweets



BY DYLAN REDFORD

Altering affirmative action

If you're a Texas resident in the top 10 percent of your class applying to college in-state, there is no need to worry about extra-curriculars, test scores or recommendation letters. Thanks to Texas Bill 588, any Texas high school senior who is ranked in the top 10 percent of his or her class is automatically admitted to any publically-funded Texas university.

FROM THE BENCH

Kelsi Morgan '14 is from Owasso, Okla.

The bill was passed in an effort to increase enrollment of underrepresented minorities on campus without explicitly taking race into account, a practice which was outlawed in 1997 (see *Hopwood v. Univ. of Texas*), and it was largely successful.

In 2003, though, the Supreme Court ruled in *Grutter vs. Bollinger* that considering race as a factor in admissions decisions (in this case, to the University of Michigan's law school) was constitutional, so long as policies aimed to create a "critical mass" of minority students on campus, rather than a specific number of minority students, and that the policies sought the "attainment of a diverse student body."

The latter qualification comes from Justice Powell's opinion in *University of California v. Bakke* (1978), which held that racial quotas were not acceptable in admissions. Last Tuesday, the Supreme Court agreed to re-visit issues presented in both of these cases, as well as in a slew of other affirmative action cases that have been

heard in the 51 years since John F. Kennedy coined the term.

The case is *Abigail Noel Fisher v. University of Texas*. Fisher, who applied to the University of Texas at Austin in 2004, claims she was rejected from the university on the basis of her race. Fisher was not in the top 10 percent of her class, so she was not automatically accepted to the school. After a Texas school admits each student who ranked in the top 10 percent of his or her class, the admissions committee holds a second round of review to fill the remaining seats and, in this second review, race is a consideration.

Fisher's case does not directly challenge the idea that admissions policies designed to increase numbers of underrepresented races are good; instead, she claims that, because of Texas Bill 588, which increased minority enrollment in the school by six percent in seven years, there were already effective measures in place to ensure the attainment of a diverse student body. Thus, she claims that the additional measures the school takes to increase minority enrollment — namely, considering race in the second applicant pool — unfairly discriminates against non-minority students.

Here, then, is the first basis upon which the Supreme Court could make its decision on this case (which won't be heard until October 2012). The justices could agree that the measures in place that don't include race explicitly are sufficient to ensure a "critical mass" of underrepresented students on campus.

Alternatively, the Court could expand

its ruling to encompass much more territory, and challenge the idea that the government has a legitimate state interest in achieving a "diverse student body" or a "critical mass" of minority students on state-funded campuses. Justice O'Connor clarified the notion of a governmental interest in diversity in her *Grutter vs. Bollinger* opinion, saying that diversity helps to create classrooms that prepare students for real-world situations, in which they will benefit from having interacted with many people from diverse backgrounds, making them better citizens.

In the same case, Erica Munzel, Director of Admissions at the University of Michigan's Law School, offered a definition of "critical mass," which included the stipulations that there be enough students of ethnic diversity so that each student could participate in class discussion without feeling isolated, and that each minority student would not feel like a spokesperson for his or her race.

Writing for the minority in *Grutter*, Justice Scalia mocked the idea that diversity is a benefit unique to education, as it is a "lesson of life rather than law [education]." Given that argument, if there is a benefit to having a "critical mass" of underrepresented groups on campus, the same must hold true everywhere, meaning that a "critical mass" should be sought in all fields, and in all forms of admissions and hiring.

Additionally, he criticized the notion of a "critical mass" of students, as there is not a quantifiable way to calculate what that number of students would be

(and calculating that number would not be permitted, as decided in *University of California v. Bakke*).

He, along with Justices Kennedy and Thomas, agree that it is not acceptable to discriminate on the basis of race.

Their claims stem from the 14th amendment, which guarantees each person equal protection of the laws. They, along with proponents of ending race-based affirmative action policies, hold that a person may not be discriminated against due to the color of their skin, no matter what that color is.

In this case, it is likely that the justices will expand their jurisdiction to something larger than just the first question, and attempt to tackle the bigger issues — namely, whether or not achieving racial diversity on public campuses is a legitimate state interest.

Justices Kennedy, Thomas and Scalia have already sided against race-conscious admissions practices. Chief Justice Roberts and Justice Alito are likely to vote against the policies as well. Because she worked on the case for the Justice Department as Solicitor General, Justice Kagan has recused herself.

Thus, it is likely that the case will come out against race-conscious admissions, which will change the practices of public colleges and universities. Hopefully, this will challenge universities to seek a well-rounded, diverse student body through means other than considering race.

Racial preferences in college admissions run counter to the 14th amendment, and the Court should enforce the equal protection clause and end the practice.

Response to Prop 8: marriage as a right

To the Editor,

Apparently Kelsi Morgan ("Striking down Prop 8," Feb. 16) was in Oklahoma when Vermont was having extensive discussions leading first to civil unions in 1999-2000, then to full marriage

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Kevin Moss is the Jean Thompson Fulton Professor of Modern Language & Literature.

White found yet again in his recent decision overturning DOMA, marriage is indeed a fundamental right — not gay marriage, not same-sex marriage, but marriage. Just as Loving determined that marriage — not interracial marriage — was a fundamental right: "The freedom to marry has long been recognized as one of the vital personal rights essential to the orderly pursuit of happiness by free men" (*Loving vs. Virginia*).

I'm surprised Morgan didn't turn to the dissent in the very ruling she cites, penned by the Mormon judge Randy Smith, where he suggests that though the Prop 8 proponents did not provide one shred of evidence that there was any rational basis at all for denying gay people marriage (and this is why they want the tapes kept private), they might have rationally believed that somewhere, somehow, someday, somebody might come up with a rational reason, or they might have believed that their reasons were rational, even if they clearly weren't. But instead she brings up the old chestnut: gay people are not discriminated against, because they too have the right to marry someone

of the opposite sex! The Supreme Court of California, in its 2008 ruling, found that argument "sophistic" (I would have said "silly"): "Just as a statute that restricted marriage only to couples of the same sex would discriminate against heterosexual persons on the basis of their heterosexual orientation, the current California statutes realistically must be viewed as discriminating against gay persons on the basis of their homosexual orientation." (In re *Marriage Cases*)

Morgan hints that marriage equality for same sex couples is not "rooted in the traditions and conscious of our people," and is therefore not protected. But Judge White's ruling on DOMA on Feb. 22 points out that "tradition alone ... cannot form an adequate justification for a law ... The imposition of subjective moral beliefs of a majority upon a minority cannot provide a justification for the legislation. The obligation of the Court is to define the liberty of all, not to mandate our own moral code."

White's arguments go even further, beyond easily swatting down the opposition for not having any facts on its side. Like Judge Walker before him, White makes a very strong case for treating gay people as a suspect class deserving of strict scrutiny. As this case becomes established precedent, this classification will have far-reaching implications well beyond marriage equality.

Denial of any rights to gay people (like denial of rights based on race or sex) will have to be shown to have compelling government interest and be narrowly tailored, and there is little compelling government interest in discrimination against gay people.

The promise of a 22-year-old graduate

I will work hard: behold the promise of a 22-year-old college graduate to a potential employer, right?

Interning at the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation last summer, I met Ron Gonen, the former CEO and founder of Recycle Bank, a company that incentivizes domestic recycling by offering credits (i.e. coupons) to participants who comply with a set of sustainable practices. Still in his thirties and already on to his next venture — I would describe Gonen as two parts venture capitalist, one part environmentalist — this successful, well-educated and articulate CEO told me that the only thing we recent or soon-to-be graduates can offer employers is a promissory note to work hard. Noted.

Some graduates earn bachelor's degrees in more specific disciplines than my political science degree brings to bear in the workplace, but I think embracing Gonen's advice bodes well for each of us. Too often, I fear, we who graduate from prestigious colleges develop an unassuming arrogance following commencement. After high school, more than a few of us thought we knew better than our first-year seminar professors (or maybe that was just the douchier among us, this writer included). So, just as many of us ponder the life changes awaiting after our not-so-far-off graduation, I urge three doses of modesty and two servings of reality each morning and night and a mouthful of humble pie before bed because you ain't sh*t.

But, then again, maybe in his own exodus from relative youth, my CEO role model forgot about the other promises and, more importantly, the obligations of a 22-year-old college graduate. What we cannot supply in know-how we provide in optimism. For all that we do not know about finance or politics or renewable energy, we do know about the importance of taking care of others. Our overabundances of naïveté compensates for our lack of pessimism. We are go-getters and do-gooders, who sometimes mess up, makes mistakes or take illicit drugs. We can all be happy and positive human beings and, therefore, the best men or women for the job(s).

As my hair falls out, I increasingly

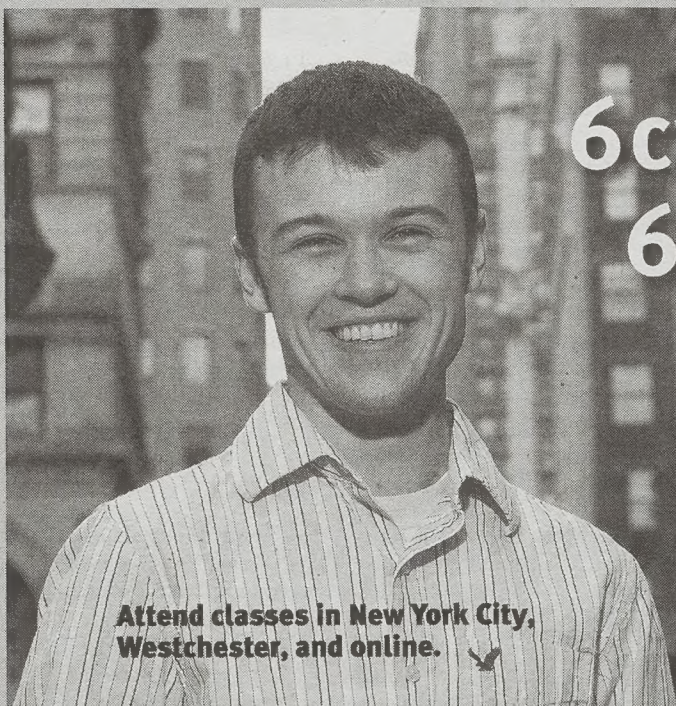
appreciate the blessings of youth. Many recent graduates, like starry-eyed first-years, still share a desire to save the world. Not too old to care about the world but too young to know how to do it, a recent graduate offers hope and freshness to tired ideas. Older people think of their lives and careers as a series of significant events. People my age have the privilege of focusing on the day-to-day, probably because our lives are much shorter and each day is a smaller, though increasingly large, percentage of our lives to date. We can live in the moment and be radical. We can dream big dreams and wake up early to realize them. It sounds cheesy and hackneyed, but so what? If you don't aim for the ideal world what are you settling for: mediocrity? What is the point of that?

But the promise of a 22-year-old is fleeting. Much of what makes life exciting is the potential we see in it. Our parents or loved ones may harbor reservations about risks we take in our twenties. They fear we could hamstring our careers by misstepping here or there. They want us to play it safe and do our best to shovel the sh*t until we too can sit in the big chair. We are the future; as we get older, we become the present. My point is that we could do a whole lot better for ourselves if we treated the present with the same optimism with which we look forward to what we might be and whom we can become.

President Barack Obama said in 2008 that "we are the ones we have been waiting for." He meant all Americans, young and old. But what he did not say his most ardent supporters demonstrated: in youth there is hope for a better tomorrow for everyone. Potential often comes from newness or reawakening. These things often come from youth. We should take advantage of our cheery dispositions and lightheartedness. While we are young, relatively single, healthy and full of energy, we should pour ourselves fully into the work we are in. This is the promise of a 22-year-old college graduate. See what you can do to take it in stride. Promise that to yourself.

BUT THEN AGAIN

Addi DiSesa '12 is from Wynnewood, Pa.



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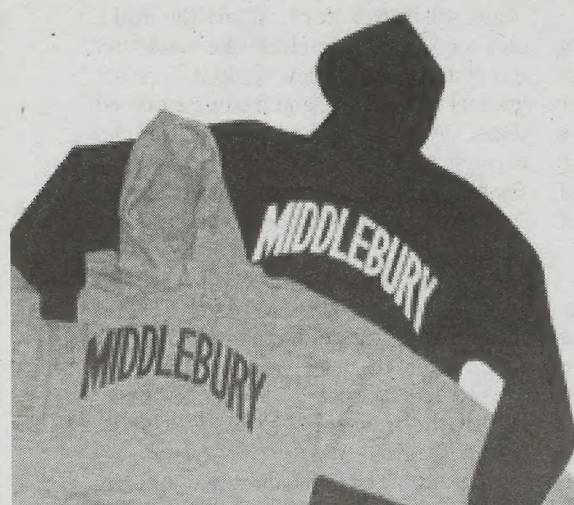
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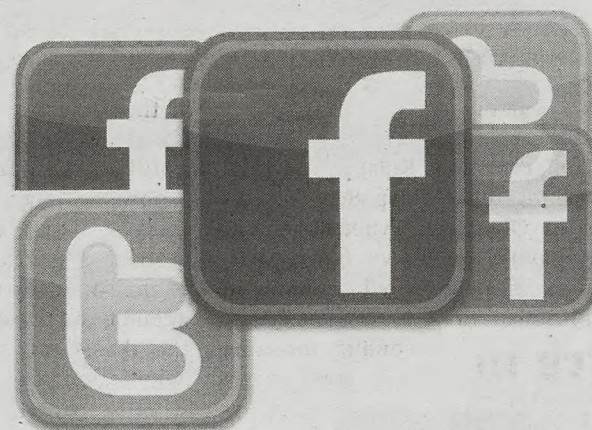
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THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

COMPILED BY LEAH PICKETT

MIDDLEBURY, VT., FEBRUARY 1952

No. 10

BY L. THOMAS LINDEN, *THE HARVARD CRIMSON*, MAY 21, 1954

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Middlebury College: Myth of Coeducation: Social, Academic Splits Divide Vermont Campus

Up on the top-floor library of Gifford Hall eight boys were at ease in sweaters and shirts open at the neck. But five of them were "blowing up a storm." A trumpet, trombone, guitar, piano, and drums were whooping up some loud Dixieland jazz. Two fellows were listening and watching; another was studying. Across the street the girls' dorms were quiet, their occupants studying.

The road that separates the girls from the boys and the rest of the Middlebury campus is not as wide as the Common between Radcliffe and Harvard, but it might just as well be. Academically and socially it is a chasm.

But despite music among the books and the coeducational split, Middlebury College compares strikingly with Harvard and Radcliffe, and the comparison reveals the advantages and disadvantages of a big-city educational plant.

The scholastic averages of two-thirds of all the girls at Middlebury fall within 93.8 and 94.4 points. Out of the 502 girls and 693 boys in the undergraduate body, there are 162 women on the Dean's List and 58 men. This is practically a three to one ratio, and in a small community it has powerful effects.

Part of the problem can be traced to the atmosphere on both sides of the Middlebury campus. It begins with the fact that girls who apply to Middlebury apply to it as a first choice. Many are turned down who are accepted at Radcliffe, Wellesley, Vassar, Smith, and Bryn Mawr. But boys apply as their second or third choice, and if they end up there, it is generally because they were turned down elsewhere.

And when the female freshman arrives at Middlebury, looking for and expecting to find enjoyable learning under coeducation, she finds a highly regimented campus social life. She must be in her dormitory by eight o'clock every night, unless she signs out until ten. Only on Saturday nights can she sign out till twelve thirty. Evening athletic contests at the school are the exception.

Women cannot be in the boys' dormitories at any time under any circumstances. This throws the load of indoor socializing onto the fraternities, but here Middlebury College law has strengthened Vermont State law to a severity that outdoes the deplorable situation in Massachusetts.

Like most small colleges, Middlebury is

fraternity-dominated. The Interfraternity Council controls the fraternities, with the Dean of Men advising. "We've been well pleased by the workings of it," the administration reports, and there has been little interference, though the right to interfere is maintained. Because of the Vermont law against drinking under 21 and because of strong objection to College rowdism by the village townspeople, the Council has ruled that there is to be no drinking in public view. It must be taken inside the fraternities.

This is not a severe request; considering town feeling, it is a wise one. But while the boys are perfectly happy to have their parties in the fraternities, the girls are not. College regulations forbid its girls to drink, and it is difficult to break this regulation on campus.

Girls Are Further Restricted

If the proper chaperones are picked for fraternity functions (women cannot be in the fraternities unless there are chaperones present), the punch bowl downstairs will be pure. The one upstairs won't. The Middlebury women have forced this. They prefer it to two separate dispensaries downstairs, one for Middlebury women, one for others. Imported dates are under no drinking restrictions.

The sororities do not alleviate the situation since they are merely rooms in an office building in the town. If a girl wants entertainment, she must go one state west or 100 miles up to Montreal. But this is complicated by the transportation problem. There is no general exodus of students over the weekend at Middlebury because there are no longer trains in or out.

The result is that cars are plentiful among the men. They are not allowed to the women until after the Spring vacation of their senior year. Each car must be registered with the school, and discovered borrowing brings a revocation of driving rights. Girls are thereby forbidden to drive on two counts, which means that if a male enters a condition in which he cannot conduct his date or vehicle home from what is, for him, a legal drinking bout, the couple, by College regulation, is stranded.

The last alternative the girl has, if she can get the transportation, is the overnight on a weekend. For this reason the bulletin board at the Student Union is always covered with ride requests from girls. To take a

weekend, however, a girl must first obtain permission from the Dean of Women. This comes after the girl has presented a completed form from her parents, filled out at the start of the year, for permissions of all types: "Are you willing to have your daughter . . ."

The Dean of Women, Elizabeth B. Kelly, is a warm, realistic woman who approaches her problem in a highly practical way. She came to Middlebury after World War II, during which she had to protect 21 girls from over a thousand men on a base in New Guinea. Noting that a diploma is only so good as a school's reputation, she says, "We of my sex want the privileges of a double standard without any of the responsibilities."

But the Women Are Supreme

But while the Middlebury girl cannot drive, drink, wear dungarees except in the dorms or to, from, and at labs or an active sport, or sun-bathe in a latex bathing suit (any other type is permissible), she has won faculty respect.

This leads to an honor system. Only in a class that is predominantly female will the instructors walk out of the room during exams or quizzes.

... With the girls under close restrictions, even if they are self-administered, and the boys fairly free, they lead quite different lives. This is complicated by the fact that Middlebury is a small town with few diversions. For this reason, the undergraduate male life centers around the fraternity.

All freshmen at Middlebury must live in College dormitories, but rushing for the fraternities starts early in the Fall. The sororities do not rush until the Spring. Boys find much to do, and all the freedom they want to do it in. The girls are put under restrictions and forced to study. In time the men realize what they are at the school for and settle down; the senior and junior men on the mid-year's Dean's List outnumber the freshmen and sophomores on it, four to three. The freshman and sophomore girls had the exact same number of honors as the senior and junior women.

Location Problem

Sophomore men at Middlebury have the worst academic averages, which is a reflection of the fraternity-sorority system as much as of the freedom-

restriction differential. A little more than half the boys and half the girls join societies; the whole undergraduate body can't be taken. But the fraternities have houses on campus. The sororities do not, and this creates two separate atmospheres.

... The sororities provide neither living nor dining facilities, though meetings are held regularly and banquets once or twice during the year. Because the fraternities and sororities differ in what they offer, they differ in importance. A boy is identified to the Middlebury community immediately by the fraternity he is in, but a girl's sorority makes no difference to either girls or boys. In fact, it doesn't matter in the least if she isn't in one.

A Middlebury man's world centers on the frat. If you are a member of one, you are accepted by all. A fraternity party is never closed to members of other brotherhoods. The frat offers its brethren intramural sports, a bar to drink away the academic difference between themselves and the Middlebury women, and a dining hall with a separate chef to provide three meals a day and a ten o'clock snack at night. A student can have breakfast in his frat until ten thirty; he can't get into College breakfast after 7:10.

This fraternity-sorority difference causes or is reflected in another academic situation. The scholastic average of all sorority women at mid-year's was 83.37.

The average of all women together was 83.20, and of neutral women, 83.06. On the male side of the street neutral men led with 78.02. The total men's average was 76.27, while the fraternities lagged at the bottom with a grade average of 75.80.

There is little that the small town of Middlebury can do to increase the degree of coeducation in the College. There are two movie theaters, but on other than Saturday nights dating couples must catch an early show. There is some mid-week dating to campus activities, but it is a far cry from what the ten to one ratio of Harvard men to Radcliffe girls produces in the vicinity of metropolitan Boston's diversions.

The result is that the Middlebury female, feeling superior to the boys across the street, wants to get away on week-ends, and her favorite direction is Hanover, New Hampshire. The height of achievement for a Middlebury class is to be pinned to a Dartmouth lad.

... The height of coeducation at Middlebury is achieved during the ten to ten-thirty break in classes for chapel services. Attendance is required only once during the week (and on every other Sunday), so almost all students use this time to grab some breakfast at the frats or at the "Stu U."

NOTES FROM 2012

What was Middlebury like 60 years ago? By looking through old issues of the *Campus*, the yearbook and other publications, we've created this snapshot of the 1950s. Gender issues, fraternity life and the draft all loomed large in students' minds. Some of these unredacted selected passages are socially insensitive and don't necessarily reflect the opinions of today's *Campus* editorial board.

Selected Editorials from The Campus

Issue 1

At the beginning of the semester, a lot of advice was passed on to entering freshmen by faculty, administration, and students. It was hoped that through indoctrination new students would be able to adjust easily to college life and would be able to hold their own in the classroom as well as in activities.

On the basis of the mid-semester grades recently released to freshmen, in which over 100 men out of a class of 224 received grades warranting triple warnings, it would appear that this indoctrination was insufficient or that some other condition of the college was making it difficult for freshmen to achieve good grades in the first semester.

Reasons identified:

- Fraternity rushing during the first 2 months of school takes up "an amazing amount of time and energy."

- New ROTC unit is three hours a week for a first-year male, so take seven courses

- Overcrowded dorms: often two men in single rooms

- Not enough room in the Abernethy Room or the Browsing room in the lib to study; same situation with lounges in Hepburn and Gifford

Issue 2

Accuse Dartmouth College of shouldering the "white man's burden" in their fight of "righteous indignation" to "give Vermont back to the Indians." They have, "embarked on a campaign to aid a tribe of Canadian Iroquois Indians who claim 2,225,000 acres of Vermont's land.

Actually, the committee out to be called The Committee to Give Dartmouth Back to the Indians. Every prep school boy has heard the legend that anyone of Indian blood may attend the staunch old college free of charge. For generations graduates of that small but well-loved college have been able to say, "I roomed with Chief Swamp in the Face." No more! Evidently the great white fathers down there decided that the college could no longer shell out wampum for the poor young braves. Indians are now required to pay tuition or pack up their tents.

Now the benevolent Havorians, crying that the Indians have "poor schools," want to shove the responsibility onto Vermont. Dartmouth evidently hopes that Vermont money will make it possible for Indians to go to school in New Hampshire.

... We admire the crusade on behalf of the Indians, but suggest that Dartmouth give its Vermont land back to Vermont, that Dartmouth give Dartmouth back to the Indians for whom it was originally founded and that it leave unspoiled Vermont for Vermonters who are at least smart enough to accumulate a little extra money in the treasury.

Issue 3

Make the case for a Thanksgiving break that's longer than a day.

Issue 6

Religious freedom. Although going to chapel is "considerably simpler than it used to be," the basic issue in regard to Chapel has not changed in the least. Students are required to attend religious services. No matter how good and how few the services, it still seems to be an infringement on religious freedom to force students to participate, even passively, in religious ceremony.

Recommend a course being added to the curriculum for religious education instead.

In its latest statement on Chapel, the administration has called the purpose of Chapel "educational." It has also said that Chapel requires only passive attention. how can a religious service be educational if it inspires only passive attention?

the load of indoor socializing onto the fraternities, but here Middlebury College law has strengthened Vermont State law to a severity that outdoes the deplorable situation in Massachusetts. Like most small colleges, Middlebury is

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these unselected passages are so clearly insensitive and don't necessarily reflect the opinions of today's *Campus* editorial board.

From the 1952 "Kaleidoscope" (Midd yearbook):

A page about ski patrol:

Frequently the visitor to Midd's winter campus will innocently inquire, "Is this a home for [the injured]? During the ski season injuries are prevalent even among the best skiers; but due to the work of the Ski Patrol they are often avoided or at least their seriousness lessens.

Men's assembly:

The men of Middlebury are governed by representatives from the student body who are known collectively as the Men's Assembly. This organization directs and controls such pertinent problems and events on campus as use of automobiles, class elections, athletic awards, and the annual Community Chest drive. In the course of the last few years, sundry defects in the structure of the undergraduate constitution were unearthed. To ameliorate the situation it was evidently necessary to combat a certain amount of student apathy. Fast action resulted.

... It is generally felt that this new plan has the wholehearted backing of the men most keenly affected — the entire men's campus. Perhaps the men did not show the usual amount of quick masculine decisiveness we often associate with their activities, but in any case, definite satisfaction was registered at the final meeting.

Women's assembly:

Clacking of knitting needles, clouds

of blue smoke, and incessant chatter peculiar to all females — these heard on a Sunday night in the South Lounge of the Student Union Building herald the opening of another peppy meeting of the Middlebury Women's Assembly.

... A government run entirely by the students — and especially by the women students! Sounds impossible but it is true, at Middlebury College anyway. Presided over by Miss Carol Holmes, the very capable president of the Student Union, the Women's Assembly has put this ideal system into practice more successfully than one would have believed possible.

Based on the representation system — one representative elected by popular dorm vote for every ten girls — the assembly has decided on such things as the fifteen minute late plan (strict "campus" for all who are careless enough to accumulate too many late minutes during the semester), the Community Chest Plan which combines all individual fund raising drives (saving time, energy and trouble), changes in the point system, still under consideration, and the "plan with a heart" — the fun for Billy Goralski, injured captain of the Trinity football team. These plans and others, as yet only in the mind, make the Women's Assembly a vital part of the Women's College.

We cannot help but feel that we are gaining a great deal by self-government. It is never a case of being told what to do and then having to do it, come Mrs. Kelly or high water, rather it is the privilege of voting and deciding upon what we consider advisable, with only

suggestions from the higher-ups.

A summary of "our student life"

Football weekends, especially Homecoming, Thanksgiving weekend with its on-the-spot excuses, the big formals at the Field House and the little ones at McCullough, Christmas vacation, Carnival, Midd's Nucleus, Culture Conference, Junior Weekend and Commencement: these are the high points of our student life, but we need more ... something to fill in the gaps, something to make the daily routine more than a routine of studies brightened only by the thought of activities.

The snack bar for breakfast or as a 10:00 break — if you're lucky — the Stu. U. lounges for a quick game of bridge, gin, or even solitaire; the rec rooms and living rooms filled with smoke and chatter at almost any hour; the beautiful fall afternoons just right for walking, riding, or anything but studying; the first snowy day with skiing on Chapel Hill from morning 'til night, and the timorous few dragging their borrowed sleds; spring days filled with grassing couples and absent minded professors; the square dances and the more dignified affairs at "the house"; the "fix" on Sunday night with popcorn, shoes and razzing descending from the balcony... the cemetery; Chipman Hill and Dunmore.

All these, plus, of course, the often-heard-of, hard to define, "Old Midd Spirit," drilled into every freshman, outwardly scored but inwardly respected by all, permeating every conversation and every mind with its constant appeal... all these are what make Midd an individual, special place to be. They keep us going through the snowless winter and the muddy spring; they make us realize that Midd is a great college, that it will become an even greater memory... an invaluable part of our future happiness.

Delta Upsilon — largest frat at Midd

The largest fraternity at Midd (55 brothers) this year is DU, presided over by Ken Nourse. Living up to its motto of, "A DU in everything and every DU in something," the house has membership in almost every student organization.

With three men on the Dean's List, no wonder DU has managed to snag third spot in the scholastic scramble on campus. By no means book worms though, these men display admirable athletic ability. In intramural competition the house took first in basketball, totaling enough points to walk off with the coveted Trophy of Trophies. In addition, co-captain of football along with captains of hockey and indoor track can be found on the roster of some 20 plus lettermen.

The house has done much redecorating on the Victorian motif plus establishing a new dining room upstairs. And need there be any comment on the yearly "Bar Room Brawl"?

Gifford in flames



SPECTATOR'S VIEW of the Gifford Hall fire — raging smoke, flying clothes and books, ladders and hoes — all caught at its height by the camera.

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seems to be an infringement on religious freedom to force students to participate, even passively, in religious ceremony. Recommend a course being added to the curriculum for religious education instead. In its latest statement on Chapel, the administration has called the purpose of Chapel "educational." It has also said that Chapel requires only passive attention. how can a religious service be educational if it inspires only passive attention? ... The next step is evident: the abolishment of compulsory religious services.

Issue 8

The *Campus* endorses Dwight D. Eisenhower for president. After laying out policy reasons, also state that, "CAMPU'S feels justified in supporting Mr. Eisenhower because the great majority of students now at Middlebury have indicated, through informal surveys and participation in political organizations on campus, their support of the Republican nominee. We believe that the results of the election year student polls taken during the past 30 years indicate that the heavy majority of Middlebury alumni are also backing the Republican Party.

Issue 9

The Chaperone Problem

Fraternity social chairmen this year in particular as well as in the past five years have been asking, "Why can't we conveniently get chaperones for fraternity functions?" "what's wrong with the chaperone problem at Middlebury?"

The faculty, who are accredited chaperones of the colleges, have felt that their enjoyment of fraternity functions has been curtailed because they have been regarded as policemen by the houses.

Students, on the other hand, are having a lot of trouble obtaining the necessary chaperones for their functions. Social chairmen spend many uncomfortable hours calling faculty members. They feel like the faculty aren't interested in chaperoning, that they do so only infrequently and only out of a sense of duty.

Issue 10

On the dignity of entering a fraternity:

Many freshmen will find it difficult in the end to choose the correct house. They will discover that, although the quote of 25 pledges for each house is large enough to place the entire class in fraternities, the average house will take less than the quota, sometimes as many as ten men under the limit. This is due not so much to the fact that there are not enough good men to go around as to the fact that the facilities, eating, sleeping and social, of the fraternities are not adequate for such large numbers.

Issue 11

Discrimination and the IFC

1952 marked the deadline for all fraternities to have removed "discriminatory clauses" from their constitution, or else be expelled from the IFC. The ruling was passed in 1949.

In 1945, at the end of the war, returning veterans brought with them a mature attitude concerning fraternities and their place in college. A large number of influential men on this campus favored abolishment of fraternities at Middlebury. Fraternities survived only because this group was able to reach a compromise agreement, an agreement which is the real basis for the recent strong movement here to promote racial and religious tolerance in the Greek societies.

This group decided that they would impart to the newly formed Interfraternity Council power to supervise the development of a fraternity system devoid of the traditional secrecy, exclusiveness, and general attitude of non-cooperation. They included in their specific purposes this significant clause "to promote democratic treatment of students by fraternities regardless of race."

Issue 12

Continuing on the previous editorial, a hearing on discrimination in fraternities was held and it was decided that all of them were making an "honest effort" to comply with the anti-discrimination clause. None were thrown out of the IFC.

Issue 13

Lack of telephones. For example, in the four largest women's dormitories there is just one line to handle each building. In Forest East, for instance, just one telephone number is available to over a hundred women... In Gifford, which houses 150 men, there are two lines. Men living near the booths are reluctant to answer calls. They are far from anxious to run up and down four or five flights of stairs in search of someone who may or may not be home.

Issue 14

Discussion of Blue Key, the men's undergraduate honor society, which, "has taken definite strides in the past few years toward establishing a well-rounded membership. This year was no exception as a group of men from varied campus organizations were tapped for the honor ... chosen on the basis of leadership, manhood and sportsmanship, included singers, radiomen, athletes, mountaineers and actors." There exists an issue with policy concerning freshmen, which think it needs to enforce better so doesn't seem like it's not a "tough" organization that members should take seriously.

Campus capers call for Coke

The hour hand moves fast the night before exams—lots of ground to cover and panic setting in. To relax and refresh? That's easy. Have a Coke... it's delicious.

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Just AT LEAST



BY CLAIRE SIBLEY

Logistically speaking, some think of oral sex as the convenient alternative to penetrative sex; but I would argue oral isn't the ugly stepsister to princess intercourse — rather a possible aspect to any sexual experience. It can be a sudden, daring act of foreplay, situational lubricant between positions, an opportunity to get to know your partner or an excellent use of five extra minutes.

While I'm willing to bet oral has been around since before prostitution, we have definitive proof of oral congress before Cleopatra. While you may think that thousands of years of experimentation would have perfected the art, it is not so: oral sex is still a source of mystery and fear for some, delight and pleasure for others. I would argue one of the most truly excellent aspects of oral sex is its absolute demand for flexibility (speaking, ahem, metaphorically). There are few hard-and-fast rules to oral sex — but lest I leave you in a state of complete nihilistic despair, I have cobbled together a few things to think about from sundry sources, including *Esquire*, *Em & Lo* and your fellow students.

It seems that many people like to begin gently. The slow approach is often worth whatever it costs of your patience — start high, on the bones of the hips or the upper, inner thigh and linger your way downward. This is perhaps the only way sex should remind you of a horror movie: the torturously suspenseful. That said, there's a fine line between delightful frustration and smacking someone in the face with a pillow.

Make it moist (think oasis, not swamp monster). If you're finding the natural variety in short supply, there are plenty of oral-friendly lubricants available on the market (pink lemonade, I kid you not). Remember to stay away from supermarket brands, pick a flavor you both like, check for allergic reactions before, and to stay away from silicone-based varieties if you use toys.

The issue of reciprocity seems to come up frequently when we're talking about oral: the problem with thinking about oral sex this way is that it becomes more of a competitive task than an act of mutual pleasure. The rule of thumb, which seems most useful is to offer giving oral sex when you genuinely want to give it — rather than when you expect to receive it. If you want oral, ask for it. This may not be the first thing you think to request on a one-night stand, but as with all sexual gratification, you won't get anywhere unless you're willing to communicate.

Speaking of which: if you are planning to indulge in the pleasures of oral sex with someone you're not dating, remember to have "The Conversation." While obviously there are precautions (condoms, for example obviously), the best precaution is to be aware of your partner's sexual history, especially in regards to herpes. If you can't trust the person to honestly have that conversation with you, perhaps you should rethink putting your mouth where their money is.

As with anything, oral has its stereotypes: a true sexual master can please any woman with his tongue, that most men cannot come from blow-jobs or that figure-eights are the key. The first myth to be addressed is that everyone wants oral sex: the fact of the matter is that some people just don't. Of course this can change, and is often predicated on previous sexual experiences or a necessary level of trust. Oral is never a given, and always a conversation. If you're into the rough stuff, keep the biting strictly restricted from the realm of impromptu: bite only on request (and preferably by pre-arrangement — the heat of the moment too often gravely defaces good judgment) and even then always ask for confirmation.

All else, aside, remember: never, ever listen to Blow Job Girl.

Students on MAlt trips serve communities

By Ali Andrews

Between the bustle of winter and spring terms, five groups of Middlebury students opted for an unconventional February Break, participating in Middlebury Alternative (MAlt) trips. From an orphanage on a Caribbean island to an after-school program in Boston, students spent their time working for and learning about issues we do not often encounter in Middlebury. With only a week of their time to offer to the various organizations for which they volunteered, they grappled with how to make their impact both broader and deeper.

One group of a dozen students travelled to San Miguel de Allende, Mexico to work with the Center for Adolescents of San Miguel de Allende (CASA) for the week. CASA has been offering health, social educational and environmental services to poor residents — particularly at-risk youth and women — of San Miguel de Allende since 1981. Within this broad scope of services, the trip focused on domestic violence and its prevention and mitigation in CASA. The group learned about and assisted with the midwifery school — the only approved program in the nation — the domestic violence awareness program, Zumba classes and more.

In the Dominican Republic, thirteen MAlt volunteers taught English and other classes, for the week at an orphanage run by the organization Outreach 360. Each morning the group taught two classes of English to elementary school children, and fifth graders and older students in the afternoon. In addition to their full day of classes, they had free time to visit the border markets between Haiti and the Dominican Republic and play with kids in the park.

At the border between Mexico and the U.S. in El Paso, Texas, a group of 12 Middlebury students lived in a transitional shelter for recent immigrants participating in the Border Awareness Experience (BAE). The group participated in the operations of the house, cooking meals and interacting with the immigrants, both documented and undocumented. They also visited the U.S. Border Patrol, an immigration court and a jail in which illegal immigrants were held.

In Tennessee, a MAlt trip visited the Cherokee Nation to learn about Cherokee culture and work with local agencies. They spent time volunteering at a senior center, a health clinic, a childcare center and the Nantahala National Forest.

Another MAlt trip headed south, though



COURTESY

MAlt CASA took students to a center offering health, social, educational and environmental services to the underprivileged in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico.

to a lesser extent, volunteering for a tutoring and writing program called 826 Boston. Every afternoon they worked with elementary and middle school students in a classroom setting or one-on-one on writing and reading. In the mornings when 826 was vacant of students, they worked on lesson plans.

Each group kept a busy daily schedule but built into it a nightly reflection meeting in which they reviewed their work for the day and held discussions on volunteering and the greater context of their work. When asked what their favorite part of the trip was, both Kevin Yochim '14 of the El Paso trip and Doug Gledhill '14, a leader of the Dominican Republic trip, pointed to these nightly meetings.

"One night we had a life story circle. That night was particularly powerful. We are from all over the U.S. and two of our members are international," said Gledhill. "Thinking about how all of us ended up on this small island in the Caribbean together teaching English is mind blowing."

Gledhill's group also grappled with global social issues such as that of cultural imperialism in their volunteer work.

"The conclusion we came to is that teaching English is something that we as college students can easily contribute," he said. "And these students are motivated to speak English — it is a big part of their economy."

He noted a group of Middlebury students unassociated with MAlt simultaneously staying in a resort in the Dominican Republic as part of the English-centric tourism-based economy.

Despite all the MAlt participants were

able to fit into their schedules, the amount they could accomplish in the communities they visited was still restricted by the mere week of break available. How did the MAlt participants and leaders keep their trips from being just a brief foray into a disadvantaged community to punctuate the transition between two bustling semesters at Middlebury?

"Well that's the nature of the beast, isn't it?" said Gledhill. "But we do as much as we can."

Co-leader of the CASA trip, Emmy Masur '12.5, explained that one of the big questions they asked themselves was "What can we do in a week? It's hard to avoid the paradigm of going there for a week and patting yourself on the back upon your return."

"It's definitely a short amount of time to get to work," said Harriet Napier '12.5, the second leader of the CASA trip.

One way in which MAlt trips extend their impact beyond the weeklong visit is to bring what they learned back to campus and raise awareness about the issues or organizations they worked with. Yochim explained that several of his El Paso trip group members have since joined the migrant outreach club on campus, Juntos.

MAlt trips become longer and more meaningful experiences, for both the organization and the volunteers, by repeated visits. The El Paso trip, for instance, is the second iteration of this MAlt trip, led this year by participants of last year's trip. The leaders of the Dominican Republic trip were also inspired by their experience last year on the El Paso trip to organize a MAlt trip.

"We learned a lot about the situation at the border and this year we wanted to experience a place beyond the border, maybe from which some of those immigrants were coming from," said Gledhill.

"Three years ago, I volunteered for CASA for four weeks," said Napier. "The only way that the organization would let me come was if I promised to bring a group of students back in the future. MAlt was the perfect opportunity for that."

She explained that CASA "exists to do good work for the community, not to show us around."

One of the central missions of MAlt is the education of Middlebury students, which is why Yochim described his MAlt trip as "largely educational" and Masur estimated that about half of their time with CASA was spent learning about the organization and its programs. Napier described the trips as "exposure trips" in which Middlebury students experience a world unlike Middlebury.

"Ultimately, though, it is still a program designed for students, to benefit students," said Napier.

The struggle with two inversions of environment and cultural setting packed within one week and the lack of room for dialogue was echoed among MAlt leaders and participants.

"That is something that is hard about the return," said Gledhill. "You've just had this brief, intense and different experience and you can't talk to many people at Middlebury about it."

Yochim said that his MAlt trip left him with "a shift in mindset. It let me see problems here that we talk about everyday on a new scale."



COURTESY

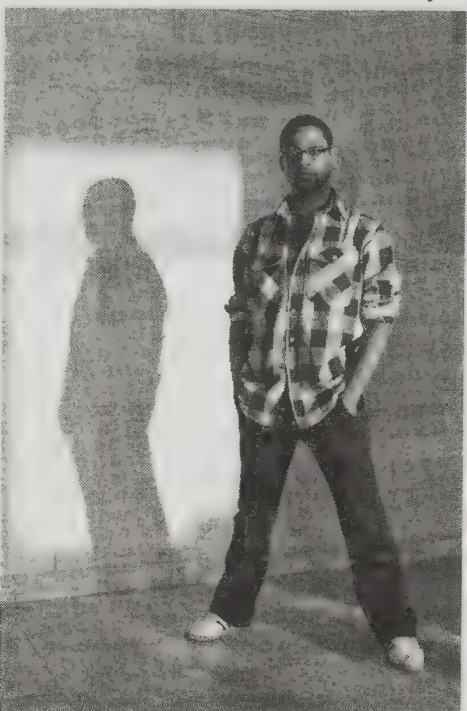
Students traveled to El Paso and the Dominican Republic to work in, respectively, an immigrant transitional shelter and an orphanage, where they taught English.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: DAVIS ANDERSON

By Jack Dolan

Imagine with me. It is a cold, dark, snowy evening in any February other than this one. After slaving away for hours on your International Politics paper, a sudden sensation blossoms from within. Excessive salivation, inability to concentrate, rumbles in your stomach — it is a desire you know all too well: dinner time. You crave the sweet, sweet satisfaction from sinking your lateral incisors into a (mediocre) Ross veggie burger; you yearn for the adrenaline rush of a gamble gone right when you bite into the lamb stew and not one meat chunk has that gross, chewy stuff in it. Overwhelmed by your primal urges, you hurl everything off your desk on to the ground, pound your chest a few times for good measure and grab your North Face jacket as you burst out the door.

Meanwhile, as you make the frozen trek from Coffrin to Ross, Mother Nature sees your hunger and desperation, and summons gale-force winds from the icy depths of Hell's ninth circle to attack you



VINCENT A. JONES

Davis Anderson '13 assumes many roles: dancer, leader, student and friend.

for her own sick amusement. Try as you might to push through it, the buffeting of the storm is too much. You need shelter. Suddenly, from the corner of your little eye, you spy a tunnel. Seeing your chance, you give Mother Nature the finger and book it to your safe haven between the towers of Hadley and Lang.

Now you can relax. The remainder of the journey between here and gastronomic euphoria is paved with hideous industrial carpeting and has a working furnace. But when you take your innocent shortcut per the illustrious halls of Hadley Two, are you aware of whose kingdom you are passing through? Earlier this week, I was lucky enough to be granted parley with the lord of this land, Davis Anderson '13.

"Sometimes I think I'm like a shark. Like if I stop moving, I'll drown," Anderson facetiously remarked after describing his schedule for the semester. As a dance and political science joint major, one of the founding members of the new Middlebury organization Living Dance, a participant in the prestigious Dance Company of Middlebury and the only FYC for all of Hadley Two, his life is in constant motion.

"From the second my head leaves the pillow in the morning, I'm on, non-stop, for the rest of the day," he said.

Just to illustrate: This fall Anderson found himself juggling a leading role in the senior work of Jeremy Cline '12, "Climbing the World Tree," choreographing his own creative work titled "Out from the Ashes" and rehearsing with the Dance Company of Middlebury for their evening-length concert, "Push: Moving History Forward," under the direction of Artist-in-Residence Tiffany Rhynard. And those were just dance activities. In the moments when he was not dancing, Anderson was managing the myriad of readings and writing assignments intrinsic to a political science major, constructing and maintaining the lattice-work of the only on-campus community for dancers in Living Dance, and mentoring 16 first-years on their respective citation-free paths to greatness.

When asked to give a comment on Anderson's performance as an FYC, Reid Glaser '15 with eyes full of wonder and awe had



VINCENT A. JONES

Davis Anderson '13 still finds time in his jam-packed schedule for those closest to him.

this to say: "I just don't know how he does it. He's some kind of Superman, but swarthier and with better dance moves."

Even his vacations, the oases in the strenuous desert of the Middlebury academic calendar, are replete with activity. This past February Break, Anderson and the Dance Company of Middlebury took their production of "Push: Moving History Forward" on tour down in Philadelphia with shows at the University of the Arts, Drexel University, Temple University and Ursinus College. In addition to performing, which would sometimes be as often as twice a day, DCM taught and participated in different dance classes with course foci ranging from Contact Improvisation to West African Dance, East Coast Swing to Hip-Hop.

Even though his packed schedule may betray him to be more of a whirling dervish than happy-go-lucky Midd Kid, Davis Anderson is not all business. In fact, perhaps his most admirable quality is his capacity for friendship and compassion — because, before anything, Anderson is a family man.

"I talk to my family every day," Davis said. "But because I'm constantly running from this class on one side of the campus to that class on the other, the best time I have for talking is when I'm walking between

classes. So after my first class and on my way to my second, I'll be on the phone with my grandmother. And then, in between my second and third I'll be talking with my mother. And so on. Every single day."

The word family is not restricted to the traditional definition for Anderson, however. Anderson has very tight-knit group of friends with whom he spends much of his scarce free time and those of whom he considers close enough to be kin. Also, to him, the first-years in his Hadley Two kingdom, as well as some new February additions in the realm of Hadley One, are all his "babies."

It is no secret that Davis Anderson has made significant contributions to the Middlebury community as a prolific dancer, aspiring political scientist, patriarch and friend. And, in order for him to continue affecting positive change around campus, he needs to get some rest. So the next time you decide to take shelter from Mother Nature's wrath in the warmth of his realm, he humbly requests that you please do not "shout about how much you love weed" or anything of the like, because he is probably trying to sleep and, honestly, "that stuff just ain't cute." Valid point, your Highness.

Food for thought: A new appreciation for bees and honey



Bees. Whether we know it or not, we are all connected to them in some way or another. Bees helped create that occasional beautiful flower we pass by and stop to smell. And beeswax candles? Well, yeah, they obviously made those too. And whenever we drizzle honey onto our yogurt or tea, we should also be thanking those busy bees.

Not only do bees produce awesome things like beeswax, honey, pollen and royal jelly, but bees are also just amazing creatures. Whenever I learn more about them, it's hard not to smile or be in awe. Sure, we've created the Internet and built cars and airplanes, but these bees are equally impressive in my mind.

The "society" of bees is quite unusual in that it's predominantly females. In fact, a certain type of "caste" system exists within the hive. You have the queen, the workers and the drones. The queen is just like how she sounds — she rules all. Her basic job is to lay eggs and lead the rest of the bees. There is only one queen out of up to 40,000 bees, so she's got a lot to handle. Worker bees are also female, but cannot reproduce. These bees are the foundation of the hive and like their name suggests, they do all the work. Among

many things, they collect pollen, bring water into the hive and feed eggs, larvae and drones. The drones, which usually only make up about one percent of the bee population, are the males who wait around to potentially mate with the queen. Interesting system, right?

Enough about the bees. Onto the really good stuff: the honey. Unfortunately the process of how honey is made isn't exactly appetizing (although it is quite cool). Bees collect nectar from flowers and partially digest it by swallowing and regurgitating it several times. Then, this substance is stored into honeycomb. At first, this substance is similar in consistency to water. As it sits, water evaporates and the honey becomes thicker and stickier (similar to maple syrup, but the entire process is natural). At this point, the honey is ripe and collected by beekeepers.

As illustrated in ancient drawings, honey has been harvested for hundreds of years around the world, primarily in Africa and Europe. Honey was used for a variety of products, like food, medicine and cosmetics. Almost all societies found some medicinal quality to honey. Egyptians mixed honey with cod liver oil to treat wounds and the Quran mentions honey as a remedy for stomachaches. Even Aristotle dedicated an entire section of his "History of Animals" to bees. From his observations and notes, it is clear that Aristotle, like many others, was intrigued by and enamored with bees.

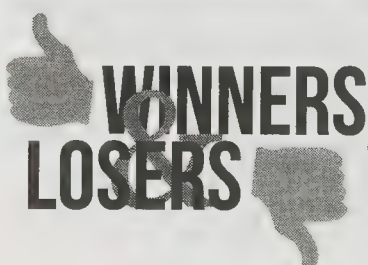
Although the U.S. is full of them today, the most common honeybees (scientifically known as *Apis mellifera*, though more casually referred to as the Western or European honey bee) are not actually native to the U.S. Although Native Americans kept native honeybee species, Europeans actually brought the Western honeybee over to the U.S., in addition to other places like New Zealand and Australia. In

fact, bringing these honeybees did a lot more to the U.S. than just bless us with delicious tasting honey. These bees helped changed the vegetation around them and helped create large fields, making the land more hospitable to livestock.

Although I truly find the history and ways of honeybees interesting, I was most fascinated (and surprised) by the recent medical research that has been done on honey. Although most of us may see honey as just a delicious condiment, research shows that those ancient civilizations were onto something: honey does have medicinal properties. And no, I'm not just talking about soothing sore throats (which it totally does). A number of studies in the past few years have found that honey is anti-inflammatory and great for healing wounds, burns, scrapes and cuts. It's even been found to help prevent tumor growth. Research is still currently being done on the medicinal properties of honey, particularly with cancer.

So instead of a recipe today, I'm going to share a little tip I learned while doing research for this article. Next time you burn yourself — something I do way too often in the kitchen — apply a generous amount of honey to the burn (make sure to first run it under cold water and dry it). Wrap the burn in plastic wrap and then gauze like a bandage, and keep this bandage on for a couple of days. My guess is that you could use a Band-Aid as well, depending on the size of the burn.

Kate Strangfeld '12 is a culinary school graduate and current chef/co-manager of Crossroads Café. She also has her own personal cooking and food/policy news blog, *Icing off the Cake*.



ORANGE CRUSH
So classic.

DJ FLEX
Stop talking and play the music. So frustrating, Flex.

WINTER BALL OPEN BAR
Underclassmen subsidizing free alcohol for the 21+. Sweet.

WINTER BALL OPEN BAR
#1 rule for running an open bar for college students: don't run out of beer.

VEGUARY
A solid show of student-led social action.

DJ FLEX
We really disliked him.

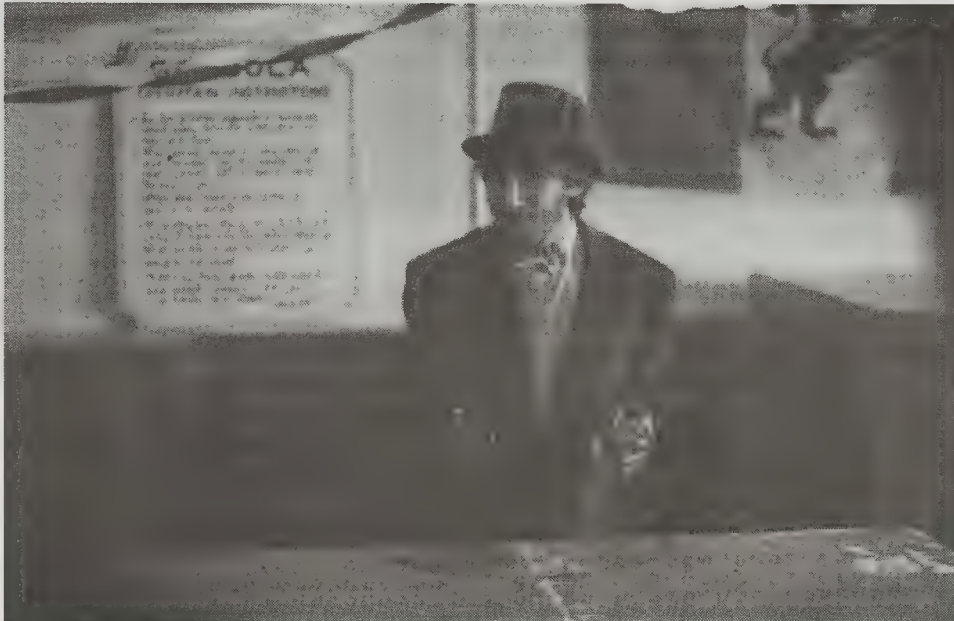
SKI TEAM
This weekend was their moment to shine. Way to go, token D1 team.

SKI TEAM
Least-comfortable team to observe. Can we watch from inside?



Legacies of Laughter:

Student-produced web series shows comedy talent on the Internet



Tom Califra '13 played the conniving and bizarre Lucien LaBelle in the recent student-produced web series "Legacies" that was written and filmed over Winter Term.



Ben Orbison '12.5, Adam Benay '13, and Greg Dorris '13 played hopeful frat brothers putting on a toga party to impress other members of Kappa Omega Chi.

By Emily Scarisbrick

We know the faces of Middlebury comedy from the rambunctious and well-attended shows of Otter Nonsense and Middlebrow, but this January Middlebury comedians again used a new medium in video, following the "Public Safety" web series last year. The web-series "Legacies" was written, directed, shot and edited during Winter Term and is now available to watch on funnyordie.com. The four episodes follow the mishaps of Zach, Kevin and Chet (played by Greg Dorris '13, Ben Orbison '12.5, and Adam Benay '13) as they pledge the prestigious Kappa Omega Chi fraternity and do the bidding of the borderline evil Lucien LaBelle (played by Tom Califra '13).

The first of these eight-minute episodes is certainly the best developed, although each of them maintain the bizarre humor of the first to incredible effect. The website uses a brutal but effective scoring system where viewers can vote if a show is "funny" or should "die." For the first episode of "Legacies" over 90 percent of the two thousand viewers voted it funny.

It's not hard to see where this reaction comes from; within the very first scene of "Legacies," the viewer gets a sense of the goofy and original characterizations that underpin every interaction. Each of the characters has an indefinable oddness that makes whatever situation they find themselves in funny.

The opening scene of the show features Zach, Kevin and Chet strolling around an unknown college campus, half-heartedly talking about whether to pledge Kappa Omega Chi. Sure, their fathers did it, but do they really want to have to wake up to get to the first meeting at 6 a.m. the next morning? Zach appeals that they do; what's the harm in getting up a little early?

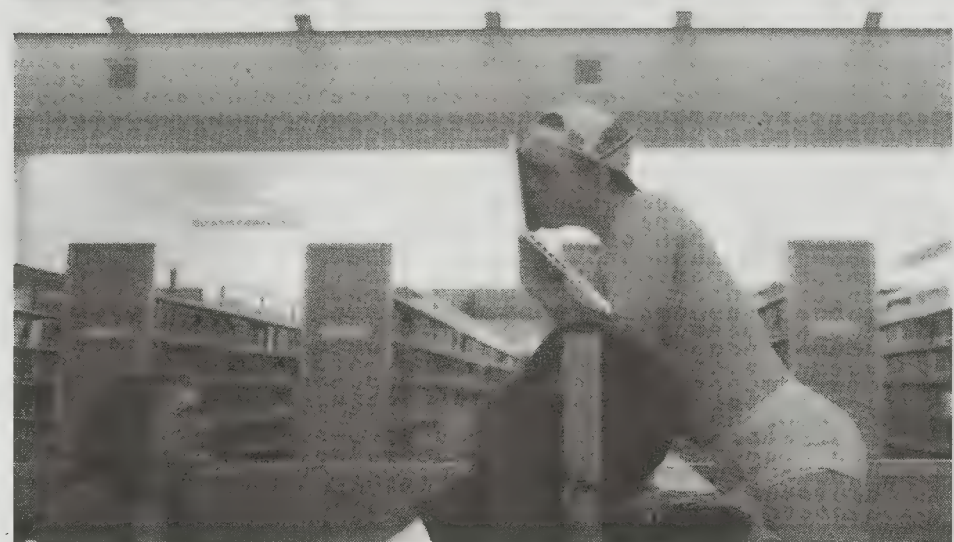
The viewer is then pulled into a flashback of Zach waking up early that morning and meowing gently to his cat on the phone. Next up, Kevin argues that he has already had enough of a social-life as the scene cuts to an image of him online boot shopping at 11 p.m. on a Saturday night. Lastly, the bumbling Chet protests that he doesn't like doing the weird things that frats represent. No sooner has he said this then the viewer sees a shot of him practicing some shirtless belly dancing moves in his bedroom mirror.

Over the next episodes, the show takes viewers through a wild range of scenes as the pledges obey the orders of their pledge master Lucien LaBelle: they throw toga parties to a backdrop of the melancholy sounds of "Halleluiahs," they fake papers on "New-wave feminism through the prism of neo-nationalism in Thailand" and clamber exhaustedly over library carrels to make-out with hallucinations.

Aside from the comedy value of the show, it's exquisitely shot and edited with real care. The opening credits are professional, and the transition between scenes makes them bump up against each other in ways that brings out the ludicrous comedy of each one. Mathew Yaggy '12 was involved in the project from the beginning, and explained the lengths involved in the show;

"Brad Becker-Parton '11.5, Rebecca Tharp '12 and myself all rotated jobs," said Yaggy. "The first and fourth episodes Brad directed, I did cinematography and operated the camera and Rebecca recorded sound. I directed the second episode, Rebecca did cinematography, and Brad recorded sound. Rebecca directed the third episode, Brad as cinematographer, and I recorded sound ... It was pretty easy working with everyone but it was a huge project."

Despite the workload, the positive results were as obvious for the viewers as for the producers: "Almost all of my free time was taken up by the show," said Yaggy, "but I feel like it's something that we can be proud of and show off so I don't regret doing it. It was a great opportunity to get experience in a bunch of different film roles."



Ben Orbison '12.5 hallucinates during a particularly intense evening of pledge in the series "Legacies." The producers report having to film in the library after-hours to avoid disturbing other students.



"Legacies" was written, filmed and directed collaboratively by Middlebury students.

DON'T MISS THIS

Stephen Osborne

Renowned for his unique approach to a wide variety of music, pianist Steven Osborne has won numerous awards and prizes, including the 2009 Gramophone Award. Osborne will perform an all-Ravel program, including Gaspard de la Nuit. Tickets \$6.

3/2, 8 P.M., CENTER FOR THE ARTS, CONCERT HALL

Tabloid

A documentary about a former Miss Wyoming who is charged with abducting and imprisoning a young Mormon missionary, the newest film from legendary documentarian Errol Morris is "bonkers in all the best possible ways. Sponsored by the Hirschfeld International Film Series. Free.

3/3, 3 AND 8 P.M., DANA AUDITORIUM

Two Talks by Dr. Sylvia Nonnyanga-Tamusuza

Dr. Sylvia Nonnyanga-Tamusuza, Associate Professor of Music at Makerere University in Uganda, will give two talks: one on negotiating and constructing gender among the Baganda of Uganda, and another on Baakimba Dance from Uganda. Sponsored by Departments of Music, African Studies and WAGS.

3/6, 7 P.M., BI HALL, ROOM 216

Fearless and passionate guitarist Yang returns

By Katrina Abe

One of the world's finest classical guitarists, Xufei Yang, returns to the College for her second debut in the Annual Performing Arts Series on Feb. 21. Yang is a talented musician born in Beijing and based in the U.K. Born after the Cultural Revolution, Yang was the first guitarist in China to attend a music school, and her musical talents were recognized at an early age. The Spanish Ambassador to China, impressed after seeing her first performance at age 10, gifted her with a concert guitar. She was the first Chinese student to be awarded a full postgraduate scholarship to study at London's Royal Academy of Music. Xuefei Yang has performed at distinguished venues such as Lincoln Center, N.Y., Royal Albert Hall in London, Hong Kong Cultural Center and Auditorio Nacional de Espana, just to name a few. Her debut album, *Romance de Amor*, won a gold disc in Hong Kong and her second album, *40 Degrees North*, was selected as Editor's Choice in *Gramophone* magazine.

When asked how she felt being back at the College, Yang said, "I'm very happy to

be back at Middlebury. The people are very warm and lovely. The venue is so beautiful. It is perfect for the guitar."

The classical guitar, also known as the concert guitar or Spanish guitar, is known for its extensive right hand technique that allows the guitarist to perform difficult melodic material similar to that of a piano.

The Concert Hall was abuzz with excitement before the performance. I surveyed the audience and noted the eclectic mix of attendees: College students, families (some with young children), townsfolk, professors, elderly couples and visitors all the way from Spain and China. The mood was anxious and animated — everyone wanted to see the musician in action. The young artist emerged stage left wearing a long, carnelian gown. She flashed us a beaming smile, and welcomed us to her performance.

Yang performed a wide array of pieces, giving us a generous taste of the various sounds of classical guitar. Some pieces were composed by pianists J.S. Bach, I. Albéniz and F. Chopin, but rearranged for the guitar by Yang herself. One piece by a famous Italian guitarist and composer, Gi-

ulio Regondi, was said to be very difficult to play.

Yang mildly laughed as she explained to us: "Some people say it is impossible to play so I'm going to play [it]."

This very much encapsulates her attitude toward music: fearless and passionate. At times, I felt transported to another time period and place. When Yang performed *España, Seis Hojas de Album*, I felt as if I was in a Spanish saloon.

Yang's performance was received with much enthusiasm and admiration. Zoey Zhu '14, an international student from China, praised the performance as "absolutely wonderful" and the guitarist's sound to be "quite mesmerizing."

When asked to share something interesting about herself, Yang said, "I like to think I'm a humorous person. I love to live a rich, colorful life and I love touring the U.S.!"

Yang also had advice for aspiring musicians at the College, and offered some words of wisdom: "I say to love what you're doing and love the music you're playing. If you keep doing what you love, then good things will happen to you."



Renowned classical guitarist Xufei Yang returned to Middlebury last Feb. 21.

THE REEL CRITIC

BY GRADY TRELA

Depending on who you are, it can mean one of two things when you hear that the Rock, wrestler-cum-action hero, is starring in a new family film. If you are Michael Bay, you're just beating yourself up again because you didn't cast him as the lead in 1996's *the Rock*, which would have made for lots of on-set jokes and precluded Nicolas Cage's participation in the film (after starring in *Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance*, he brings you only shame). If you are everyone else, though, you want to know how well he acts. Starring in a family picture is not the most demanding task, but for someone used to the choppy one-liners of the action genre and whose training as an actor is most rooted in the pro-wrestling school of drama, this is a steeper challenge.

To clarify, when I say "everyone else," I mean everyone who isn't a parent or under 13. This group knows that the Rock has carved out a niche for himself in recent years doing family-oriented movies. However, I had not seen any of these films. So for me, *Journey 2: The Mysterious Island* was a foray into the abyss.

The film opens with the young protagonist, Sean (Josh Hutcherson), being

chased on a motorcycle by the police late at night. He's just broken into a satellite research center so he can pick up a radio signal that was too weak to get at home. The police end up catching him, but luckily his stepfather, Hank (the Rock), is friends with an officer so he gets off easy.

From the opening scene, the tension between Sean and Hank is palpable. When Hank arrives at the crime scene, he tells an officer that he's Sean's stepdad. Sean quickly bites back, saying "legal guardian." We come to find out that Sean has been taken away from his old school and friends and now lives in Dayton, Ohio, with Hank and his biological mother.

To make a long story short, Hank, wanting to get closer to Sean, helps him break the code in the message he found (Hank was in the Navy). The code is made of words from Jules Verne's novels (think *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* and *A Journey to the Center of the Earth*), and we find out that it was sent from Sean's estranged grandpa (Michael Caine),

JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND



a "Vernean." The message leads them to construct a map from the pages of various Jules Verne's novels, and these pieces form a map of "Mysterious Island." Soon Hank and Sean are off to Palau. Hank's motive for taking Sean is that when they find out there is no island or grandpa, it will be Hank who's there to "soften the blow," making them closer in the process.

Although the story and its characters are formulaic, the Rock's acting is not bad, and it comes with other lively performances by Caine and Luis Guzmán. There are a few humorous moments in the movie, and the Rock lends a good sense of timing to them. Also, in contrast to his wrestling persona, he comes off as likeable and even relatable.

The film's most striking feature is its visual effects. *Mysterious Island* is a lost paradise bubbling with animal life and tropical vegetation. There is a constant play on size in the movie, as creatures that we typically

think of as large (elephants) are small and normally tiny creatures (bees) are huge. Also, there is a volcano on the island that we can see from Caine's forest house. However, the film hardly conveys a message of communion with nature. Rather, from the instant that Sean, Hank and their other two companions set foot on the island, we get the sense that they'll be kicking the shit out of it, American-style, ahead of taking any soil samples. For instance, Hank's take on lizards: "I love lizards ... when they're belts and boots."

Also, although I doubt this was intentional, Hank owns a construction company for a living. From discovering the lost city of Atlantis to Captain Nemo's submarine (yes, the characters do both), the film is more about humanity's triumphs than anything else.

This type of film promises a neatly packaged ending, and you pretty much know what you're getting into when you buy your ticket. *Journey 2: The Mysterious Island* isn't a good movie, but it can be enjoyable. There's something to be said, after all, for people paying money to see the same thing over and over.

BOOKING IT

BY HALLIE WOODS

My immediate reaction upon finishing *The Art of Racing in the Rain* was to fling myself onto the floor and hug my dog, Phineas, while tears streamed down my face. I've yet to control my sniffing even as I write this. For anyone who has ever had a dog, loved a dog or felt like that one animal understands you in a way that no human ever will, this is the novel for you. Yes, you will end like me, sobbing and clutching the dog you are so lucky to still have, but you will also be clutching the book — at heart, it is a story of love, triumph and fighting for what you want no matter the cost.

Allow me to disengage from the emotion for a moment and actually proceed to detail. Garth Stein knows he is writing a book that will make the reader cry. He opens at the end so to speak, slipping us the knowledge that Enzo, beloved dog of Denny the racecar driver, is getting old and ready to die. It is only in the first chapter that the reader is given foresight into the later parts of the novel, for the rest of the story continues, narrated by no other than Enzo himself. That's right.

The dog is protagonist, the narrator and a damn good speaker when you get right down to it. Enzo tells of us his puppy days, of Denny choosing him and the life they live as bachelors together. Denny meets Eve, and they marry and have a daughter, while Enzo is wrapped up in a loving family just ripe for some sort of drama to tear them apart.

This is Stein's first triumph. Terrible things happen to Denny and his loved ones, things that I won't get into because the reader deserves to be as sad and shocked as I was. It is Stein's choice to keep his protagonists going, to not allow them to wallow as the rest of us might, were our worlds to fall apart. This facet makes him an excellent and insightful writer. Of course, it is Stein's voice in Enzo, full of compassion, understanding, strong opinions and pieces of revealed truths. To see life from a dog's point of view and to watch tragedy unfold alongside happiness is a remarkable thing, and will have you sitting at the kitchen table

looking at your own dog and wondering what on earth they think of you.

What makes Enzo's narration particularly stirring are his philosophical views of the world. He believes that upon his death he will come back to life as a man, and practices thinking and behaving as humanly as possible throughout his life. He watches television with Denny and takes in the facts of the world. He confronts the dark hopelessness that lies dormant within all of us, through a

THE ART OF RACING IN THE RAIN

Garth Stein

beautiful metaphor about a dancing zebra. He understands death and what it truly means to live, but also how to keep someone living. Enzo is Denny's support system, and influential in almost every big decision, and plot twist, throughout the novel, drawing the reader in on Enzo's side, so that we root for Denny.

Speaking of rooting for Denny, I come to Stein's second triumph. The author can turn an inspirational phrase like he was born to do it. Denny is a racecar

driver and as Enzo grows up, he becomes a racecar dog. He knows all the tricks, the skills, the moments of inspiration that keep a competitor going when all other hope and help is lost. The novel is littered with wonderful quotes about racing, such as my personal favorite: "There is no dishonor in losing the race, there is only dishonor in not racing because you are afraid to lose."

As a varsity rower who knows more about racing, and the pain, fear and ecstasy that comes along with it than I ever thought possible, every one of these tidbits hit home. Who cares if they were about racecar driving and not rowing? Any athlete will read the novel and apply every word to their sport. If they have a dog like I do, then they probably won't ever want to put the book down.

So really I don't understand why you're even still reading this review. Get in your car (pretend you're a racecar driver for once in your life) and get a copy of *The Art of Racing in the Rain*. Now! I don't tell you to do this often ... so take my word for it.

SPRING CONCERT LINEUP



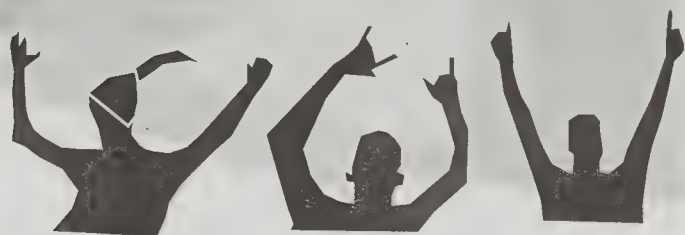
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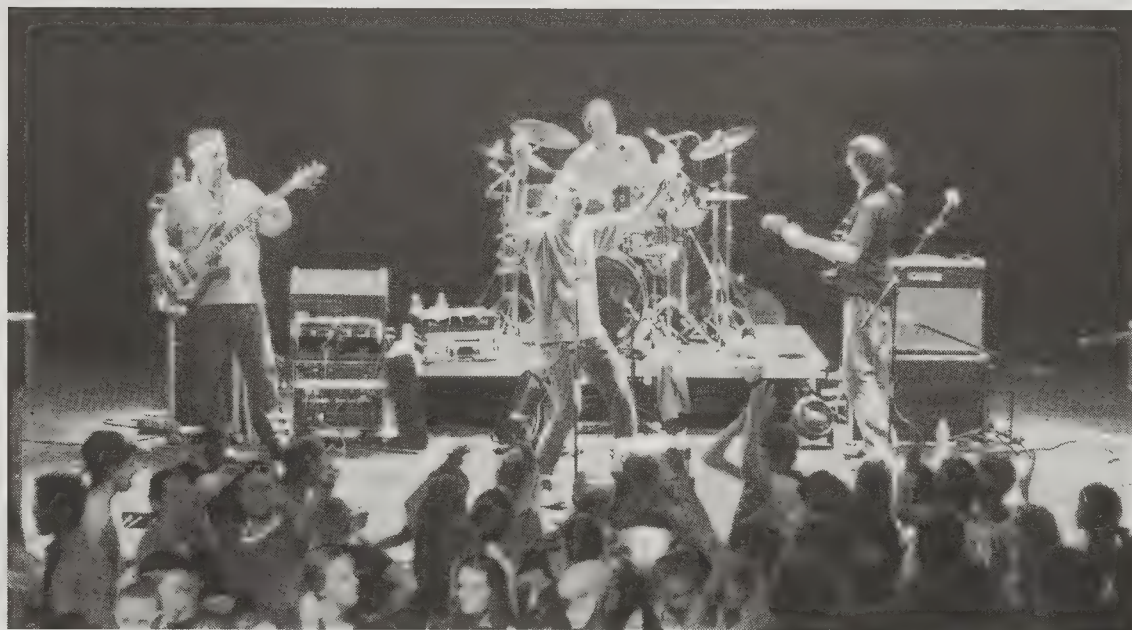
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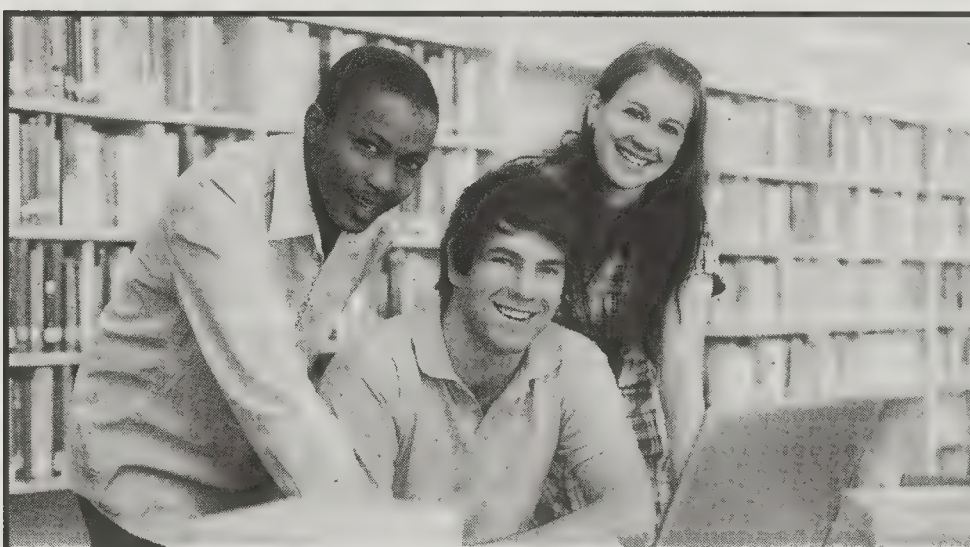
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PATRICK FREEMAN

Orange Crush performs to a crowded McCullough Social Space on Thursday, Feb. 23 as part of the Winter Carnival Festivities. The '80s cover band is one of the Carnival's long-standing traditions.



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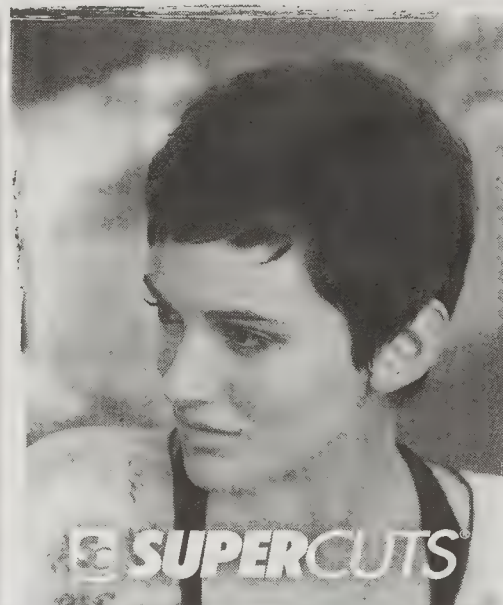
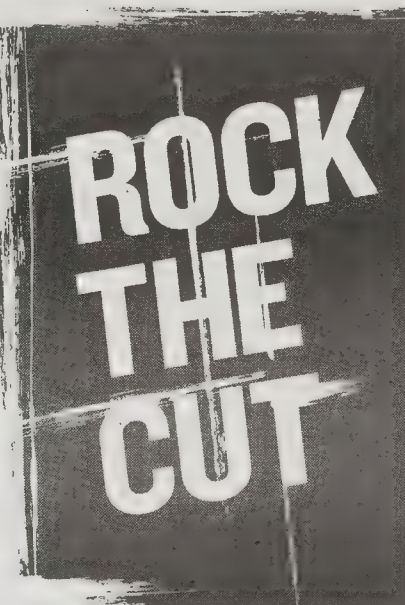
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Men's basketball draws Morrisville St. in Big Dance

CONTINUED FROM 24

decided to be aggressive and make plays and then Wolfin stepped up with some timely shots and finishes at the rim that put us in a position to maybe send it to overtime."

Wolfin followed with five straight points of his own, knocking down a long three and then drawing a foul in the lane, sending him to the line where he knocked down both free throws to close the game to 56-51 as part of a 19-6 eruption for the visitors.

After baskets from Kizel, Lynch and Sharry pulled the Panthers within five points of the lead, Wolfin drove the lane and finished with contact for a Middlebury three-point play. In just over six minutes of play the Panthers — carried by their outstanding guard play — had all but erased a 15-point deficit.

"In the second half, we realized we needed to catch up quickly," Kizel said. "We picked up the tempo and our defense and scored more in transition."

The Lord Jeffs extended their lead back to four twice more, with an athletic layup from forward Willy Workman and a three-point play from bruiser Jeff Holmes, but Wolfin and Kizel responded once again for Middlebury. After another long Wolfin three, Kizel evened things up with an acrobatic finish at the rim to tie the game at 68 with 30 seconds remaining in the game.

Once again though, the Lord Jeffs found an answer at the end of the game. After holding the ball for the final shot of the game Toomey drove the lane and kicked the ball to the wing where sharpshooter Taylor Barisse knocked down a three point shot to give Amherst a 71-68 lead with just three seconds remaining.

Knowing that the Panthers needed a three point shot to tie the game, Amherst head coach David Hixon elected to foul Kizel and put him on the line with one second remaining. Kizel — a 90 percent free throw shooter — coolly knocked down the first free throw before intentionally missing the back end to give his team a

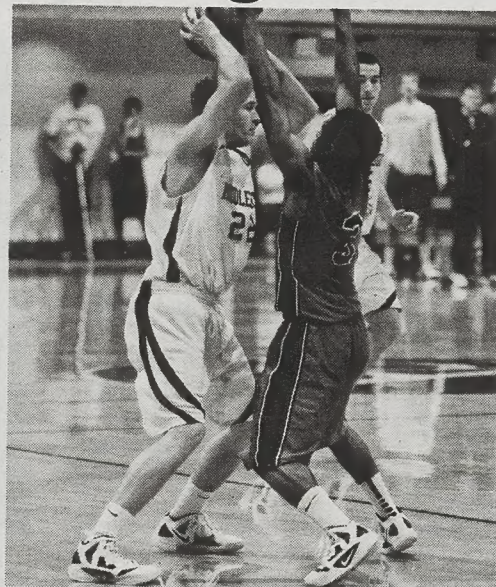
potential game-tying put back.

Kizel's second attempt hit the back iron and, after being tipped by a Lord Jeffs defender, landed in the hands of Thompson, though his rushed attempt fell wide of the basket.

For the second time in two weeks Middlebury lost on Amherst baskets in the final five seconds of the game despite mounting furious comebacks after digging double-digit holes.

The game marked Middlebury's fourth consecutive appearance in the NESCAC Championship game — advancing to the title game in each season of Sharry's collegiate career.

The Panthers will host the opening rounds of the NCAA Tournament March 2 and 3. Friday, the nation's fourth-ranked team will tip-off on the road to Salem, Va. against Morrisville State (19-8). The victor will then advance to play the winner of the other first round game between Albertus Magnus (27-1) and St. Joseph's College of Rhode Island (21-4).



COURTESY: ANDREW RIBNER, WESLEYAN ARGUS

Nate Bulluck '14 handles pressure from Wesleyan guard Derick Beresford.

EDITORS' PICKS

How many goals will the hockey teams combine for in the NESCAC finals weekend?

Will the margin of victory in the Middlebury-Morrisville game be larger than that of the Albertus Magnus-St. Joseph's game?

Who will set the most records at ECAC's — men's or women's track and field?

Will the Boston Celtics have a winning record after their game against the Knicks on Sunday?



OWEN TEACH (11-6, .647)



DAMON HATHEWAY (42-30, .583)



DILLON HUPP (100-84, .543)



ALEX EDEL (56-64, .467)



KATIE SIEGNER (73-85, .462)

NINE
Men vs. Bowdoin in the semis is a tough game.

YES
In Sharry we trust.

MEN'S
They keep the record train rolling.

NO
Remember Linsanity?

SEVEN
Tough matchup for the men, but the women will take care of business.

NO
Both games should be blowouts but Albertus Magnus is a horrible draw for poor St. Joseph's.

MEN'S
Because Alex said so.

NO
They have to go 4-0 this week. Which is about as likely as Katie going 4-0 this week.

TWELVE
Two games apiece, three goals per game. Get some.

YES
I have nothing to comment here, other than check out my 100 wins!

MEN'S
Though this one is really a toss-up. Both teams have been phenomenal.

NO
Seriously, 100 wins. That's the first time that's ever been done ever.

NINE
Guestimation nation.

YES
Middlebury got lucky with their bracket and should win confidently in the first round game.

MEN'S
They are really strong this year.

NO
Their chances are about as high as mine at getting a winning record by Sunday.

EIGHT
But really, anything can happen and this is a stupidly hard question.

YES
If it's close, I'm running out onto the court and shooting some threes; my record needs some shock therapy.

MEN'S
This is their year.

YES
We all know I always answer questions about Boston sports teams favorably ... stats be damned.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Amherst

71-69 L

The men made it to their fourth straight NESCAC title game, but again succumbed to the Lord Jeffs.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY vs. Colby

5-1 T

The Panthers destroyed the Mules, putting them away for good with a barrage in the second period.

MEN'S HOCKEY vs. Wesleyan

2-1 W

The men are heading back to the NESCAC semis after taking down the Cardinals in a close matchup.

SKIING Winter Carnival

Third T

The snow arrived just in time for a successful 80th Middlebury Carnival, where the ski teams finished tied for third.

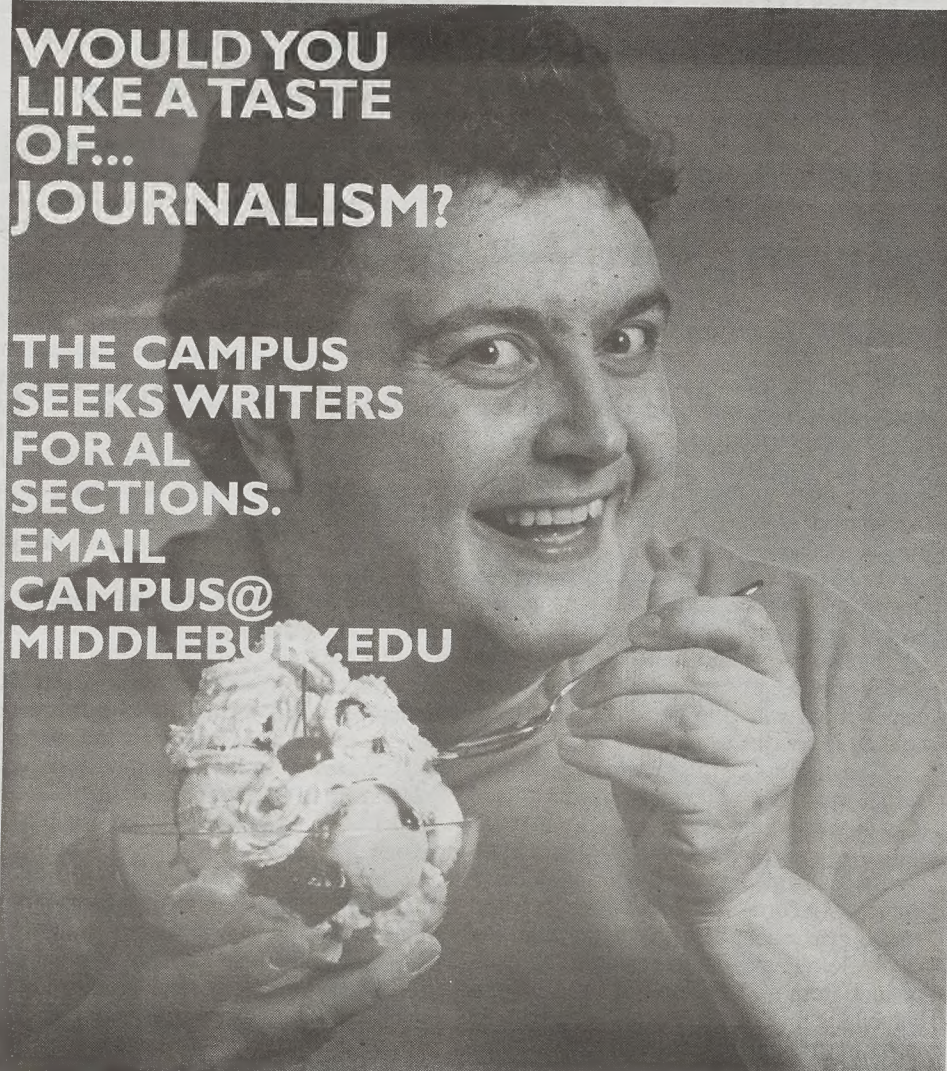
MEN'S SWIM AND DIVE at NESCACs

Seventh

Nick Daly '12 was one of several Panthers who had a good weekend, highlight a solid performance for the men.

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Women's squash voted most improved in nation

By Katie Siegner

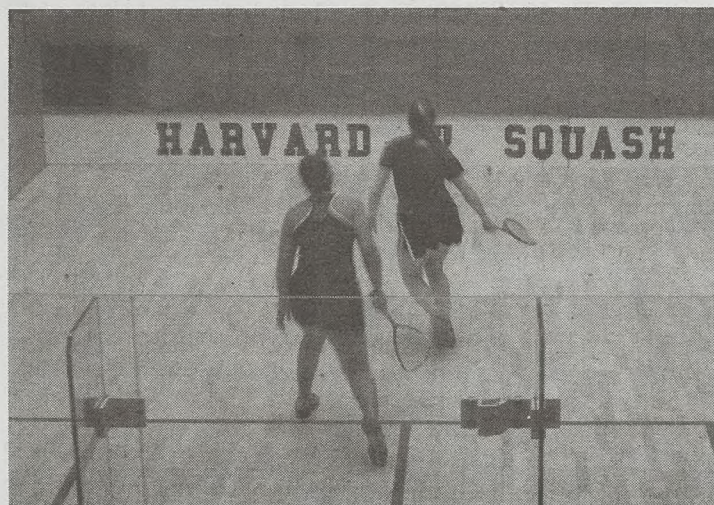
The Middlebury women's squash team came home from Nationals this past weekend, Feb. 24-26, with their highest-ever end-of-season ranking and a plaque declaring them the "most improved" squad in the College Squash Association. Seeded first in the B Division, the Panthers easily defeated 16th-ranked Franklin & Marshall before falling to Williams in their second match and winning the consolation game against Bates to finish third in the Kurtz Cup. Brown eventually defeated Williams to take the B-Division title. Middlebury finished the weekend ranked 11th in the country and proved themselves to be a contender for the Kurtz Cup crown in future years.

In the team's first match-up on Friday, Feb. 24, all players on the ladder easily swept through their opponents, with the final score 9-0 Middlebury. Franklin & Marshall players were only able to take three games total in the match. The next day, the Panthers faced their third match of the season against Williams, this time looking to defend their previous 5-4 victory over their closely matched opponents.

In the latest of the Purple Cow-Panther contests, Williams emerged with the 6-3 victory, but the match was closer than the score indicates. Both No. 6 Amanda Chen '14 and No. 7 Molly Hubbard '13 took their opponents to five games; if both had pulled out a win in these competitive matches, Middlebury could have had the 5-4 win.

"Williams and Middlebury are completely evenly matched, and on any given day, one or the other team could come away with the win," said co-captain Al Boillot '12 of their rivalry with the Ephs.

The Panthers were anchored by No. 3



Women's squash competed in team Nationals at Harvard over the Feb. 24-26 weekend, winning two out of three matches and finishing third in their division. The team improved its preseason ranking of 12 to a program-high 11th in the nation.



COURTESY: AL BOILLOT

Charlotte Dewey '15, who beat Williams's Laura Henry easily in three games, as well as No. 2 Abby Jenkins '14 and No. 9 Annie Ulrich '13. Since returning from abroad for Winter Term, Ulrich has lost just one match, to her opponent at eighth-ranked Dartmouth.

Sunday's consolation game featured a rematch with Bates, who the Panthers beat the week before to claim the ninth spot in the national rankings. Middlebury improved to 2-0 on the season against the Bobcats, taking the 6-3 win and third place in the tournament. The team secured wins from the two, five, six, seven, eight and nine slots on the ladder, and no. 2 Jenkins won all three of her matches on the weekend to lead the team.

Middlebury's third place finish earned them a final ranking of 11th in the nation, their

highest finish ever; as a result, the team was voted the most improved team in the nation by the CSA. The award is voted on by coaches of opposing teams, and is a high honor for the Panthers' emerging squash program.

"The fact that we got most improved team and our highest finish ever shows the pace at which Middlebury women's squash is improving, and I'm excited to see what the team does in the next few years," said Boillot. "Our third place finish in the B division solidifies our spot as a contender for the B division national title in the years to come."

Although the season is over for the team, this weekend the top players will compete at Individual Nationals, hosted by Amherst.

"This season was a culmination of a lot of hard work, dedication, and of course bond-

ing on and off the court," said Chen. "A lot of our success can be attributed to the leadership and organizational skills of our captains. They really stepped it up this year from the start of our preseason to this past weekend at Harvard."

Women's squash graduates its two senior captains, Boillot and Kathryn Bostwick '12, both four-year team members who have been present for the formative years of the program, as well as their No. 1 player Elena Laird '12. The team nonetheless possesses a formidable array of young talent, and should look to continue its rise to the top of college squash in future seasons. Three team members, Laird, Jenkins and Dewey, received all-NESCAC honors. Under the direction of coach John Illig the future looks bright.

Panthers host NESCAC semifinal games BY THE NUMB3RS

CONTINUED FROM 20

second of game. Less than a minute later, Styrbicki scored to put Middlebury up 2-0.

The offensive was not over yet. Maria Bourdeau '12 knocked the puck off the left goal pipe and into the net for her second goal of the year. Emily Fluke then finished off the Middlebury scoring spree at 15:21 to put the Panthers up 5-0.

Colby was finally able to get on the board in the third period when Caroline Chessar's shot bounced off Middlebury goaltender Annabelle Jones '15 and into the net. Jones did not let up, however, preventing any more scoring

"Each game from here on out is played for another week of hockey — we want to make it to the end."

MADISON STYRBICKI '13
DEFENDER

from the Mules as the game finished 5-1.

"The game was somewhat of a wake-up call for us," said Styrbicki on the win. "We know what we have to do in order to achieve the success that we know we're capable of."

Middlebury is now set to play host to both the semifinals and final of the NESCAC championship this weekend, March 3-4. The Panthers will face the Trinity College Bantams on Saturday for a place in Sunday's final. Whichever team prevails will go on to face the winner of the second semifinal between Bowdoin and Amherst.

The Panthers entered the tournament ranked first in the conference and fourth in the nation. Middlebury took home its sixth NESCAC title last March, defeating Amherst 4-3 in the final. The women look to defend this title and to gear up for the NCAA tournament where they will be in pursuit of their sixth national title.

The Panthers have not won an NCAA title since 2006, falling in the final of 2007 and winning the third place game in 2009 and 2011. With such a long history of success, anticipation is high for the upcoming tournament and the entire team feels the weight of these great expectations. Styrbicki and the rest of the Panthers look to finish the season on a high note.

"Each game from here on out is played for another week of hockey — we want to make it to the end."

4 Consecutive years in which the men's basketball team has played in the NESCAC title game. They've won two of those.

Number of wins for men's Nordic skier Patrick Johnson '12 in the 89th annual Middlebury Carnival. He won the 10K free and 20K classic events. 2

66 Percent of men's basketball losses that have come at the hands of Amherst.

Minutes it took the women's hockey team to score four goals in their 5-1 NESCAC quarterfinal victory over Colby. 4

36 Number of points scored by both Kevin Durant and LeBron James in the NBA All-Star game last Saturday. Durant's West beat James' East by three points.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT GR8 EIGHT

RANKING CHANGE TEAM
Dillon's Decisions

1+1 WOMEN'S HOCKEY
Four goals in four minutes is good enough for the top.

2-1 MEN'S BASKETBALL
Odds are they'll be seeing Amherst again in NCAA's.

3 WOMEN'S SQUASH
Most improved team in the nation!

4-1 MEN'S HOCKEY
Which team will show up for Bowdoin part III?

5-1 SKIING
I heard the party on Saturday was pretty good.

6-1 TRACK AND FIELD
They break records like all the time.

7 MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING
Solid end to the season...

8 SPORTS EDITORS
What? It's a slow week for Midd sports, ok?

Track and field continues its record-setting spree at Open NE Championships

By Owen Teach

If nothing else, you can count on the men's and women's indoor track teams to either set new records or improve on existing ones just about every week. As both teams start the final push in their respective 2012 indoor track seasons, they already boast impressive pedigrees.

Prior to this past weekend's races at the Open New England Indoor Championships hosted by Boston University on Feb. 24 and 25, the two teams had combined for 14 new Middlebury records in under two months of competition, with the current men's team holding 10 and the women's four.

The men upped this tally to 15 in Boston, with Kevin Chu's '14 60 meter hurdle time of 8.47 in the preliminary round. Furthermore, the men's and women's DMR (Distance Medley Relay) teams improved upon their existing school records, and Jack Davies '14 edged out his own school-best time in the mile. The Open New England's featured strong competition from the Division I, II and III levels, something that Bryan Holtzman '14 said did not change the team's mentality heading into the race.

"We compete against DI and DII schools almost every week, so there was no change to our mentality in that respect," said Holtzman. "We do, however, know that the meet has fast fields and we expect to run fast and compete in those fields. We obviously can't compete as a team for the overall title, as [strong] teams like the University of Connecticut are there, but on an individual level we know that we are competitive and expect to do well."

On the men's side, the DMR team of Davies, Peter Hetzler '14, Patrick Hebble '13 and Michael Schmidt '12 continued its outstanding campaign by dropping two seconds off its school record to 9:53.07. This performance gave them a fifth-place finish in the meet and the third fastest time in Division III this year, just less than four seconds slower than top seed Bowdoin with NCAA's approaching in March.

"Anything can happen at the NCAA meet, but I fully expect them to be in contention for All-American honors and possibly for the win," said Holtzman. The following day in the mile, two DMR members Davies and Hebble ran to a pair of outstanding finishes. Davies bettered his own Panther record to 4:10.31 while Hebble clocked in at 4:10.74.

"[Davies and Hebble] stayed toward the back of the pack for most the race and moved up in the final 400m, kicking past many competitors, particularly in the last 150m," said Holtzman.

Chu's record in the hurdles also turned heads on the day, as he competed against All-American Jabulani Blyden of Williams.

"He was lined up next to [Blyden] and beat him by a fair margin," said Holtzman. "On the second day in the prelims, Chu ran a tad bit slower but still beat Williams's other top hurdler, Chris Folger, in his heat, in addition to finishing with a faster time than Blyden." Chu placed 11th overall, second in Division III.

The women's DMR of Addie Tousley '13, Rebecca Fanning '12, Juliet Ryan-Davis '13 and Margo Cramer '12 won their event with a time of 11:37.06. This set a new meet record, while improving on both their school and nation-leading times.

With ECAC's this weekend and NCAA's the next, both DMR teams will look to impress, as the women are defending champions and the men will look to make the first NCAA Middlebury appearance in the men's relay.

Men's swimming and diving place seventh in NESCAC championships

By Kevin Yochim

The Middlebury men's swimming and diving team traveled to Williams College this past weekend to compete in the 2012 NESCAC Championships. The Panthers finished in seventh place out of 10 teams with 646.5 points. Williams (2011 points) and Amherst (1959) took first and second, while Tufts was a distant third with 1030 points. The NESCAC championship meet is arguably the most competitive in all of Division III.

With Williams and Amherst being two of the top teams in the nation, many of the final heats were completely comprised of swimmers from those two schools. That being said, several Middlebury swimmers had strong swims and earned key points for the Panthers. The team of Nick Daly '12, Adam Schaffer '12, Mike Oster '14 and James Wing '15 started off the meet with a seventh place finish in the 200-yard freestyle relay with a time of 1:24.83. In the next event, Chris Vandford '15 earned ninth place in the 50-yard breaststroke with a time of 27.14 seconds.

Daly, one of the team's top sprinters,

might have had the best performance of all of the Panther swimmers in what was his final championship meet as a Middlebury swimmer. He finished fifth in the 50-yard butterfly with a time of 23.13 seconds and fourth in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 20.96 seconds, barely missing an NCAA B-Cut. In addition to his success on relay teams, Daly would round out his strong meet with a ninth place finish in the 100-yard freestyle.

Nick Keenan '14 finished 10th in the 200-yard individual medley, while Lucas Avidan '15 dropped an impressive 22 seconds from his seed time en route to finishing tenth in the 1000-yard freestyle with a time of 9:53.97. Kazu Asaga '12 finished eighth in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 52.56 seconds, earning the Panthers key points.

Other events of note were the 200-yard medley and 400-yard freestyle relays in which the Panthers finished in seventh place.

In the diving events, Skylar Dallmeyer-Drennen '14 finished in seventh place on both the 1- and 3-meter events with scores of 336.60 and 341.25, respectively.

"We were very pleased," said coach Bob Rueppel. "We had a lot of time drops. Overall, it was a total team effort with twenty-four guys really going after it. I'm very pleased with all the things, both in and out of the water, that we've accomplished this year. I can't give the kids enough credit for really just jumping on board with all the new things we're doing. There have been a lot of changes, and they handled them all very well. I think there was quite a bit of success on all levels this year."

While unfortunately this meet marked the end of the men's season, the team shows a lot of potential moving forward with numerous young swimmers working hard to reach their full potential. As several members of the women's team qualified for the NCAA Championship, they now have almost three weeks to train for the meet, which will begin on March 21 in Indianapolis.

"We are of a mindset that we're not done yet," said Rueppel. "Yes, we're thrilled we made it, but we think we can be faster. I'm very optimistic."

Men's hockey lifted by late goal over Wesleyan

By Alex Edel

The men's hockey team beat out Wesleyan 2-1 in the NESCAC quarterfinals Saturday, Feb. 25. The team will play Bowdoin in the semifinals on March 2 at Amherst.

The first period went without any shots from Middlebury until the 14th minute, when Louis Belisle '14 shot only to be denied by Cardinal goalie Glenn Stowell. The Panthers then had another chance at a goal 16 minutes into the period when they went on the power play, only to fail to get the puck past Stowell. The period went with a very small amount of shots on goal from both teams, but the Panthers still held the slight shooting advantage with six shots on goal compared to the Cardinals' five.

The second period proved more successful for the Panthers as they were able to score almost 18 minutes into the 20-minute period. This came after the Cardinals failed to capitalize on any of their six power play opportunities, as Dan Fullam '15 was able to block several attempts from Wesleyan players. Captain Tom Cantwell '12 found the net after the puck slid to him from fellow captain Charlie Strauss '12. The Panthers held a convincing 10-2 shots advantage over the Cardinals.

The Panthers were not safe yet as James Albrecht from Wesleyan scored 11 minutes into the period, tying the game up with just nine minutes left in the game. However, the Panthers did not let this discourage them as they continued to communicate and play as a team, something that paid off as Chris Steele '13 scored the game-winning goal with 3:03 left in the game. Steele attributed the late game winner to great communication and teamwork.

"I guess you could say I was in the right spot at the right time," said Steele. "After a



ANDREW PODRYGULA

The men's hockey defense limited Wesleyan to a single goal in their quarterfinal match-up last Saturday, a great improvement from past meetings with the Cardinals.

great forecheck by Charles Nerbak '12, the puck came back to me in the slot and I shot high blocker side to beat the goalie. It would not have been possible if it weren't for the great communication and hard work of my teammates."

Both teams took timeouts in the final two minutes, but Wesleyan was unable to tie up the game and the Panthers came out victorious to a team who they lost to early in the season, but more recently beat them 3-2 at the beginning of February.

The team is continuing to train hard in preparation for their upcoming semifinal game against Bowdoin. This season the team went 1-1, beating the Polar Bears 7-1 in their second game of the season and then losing

5-0 to them in late January.

"Heading into the weekend, we are preparing as we have all year," Steele said. "We are priding ourselves on having deliberate practices and we are all very excited about the opportunity we have at hand. We realize the importance of the game and the talent of our opponent. With that said, we will continue to work towards playing a full 60 minutes."

The team has won six of the last seven games, something that is a testament to the focus the team has put on all members of the team playing well for the whole game.

"A motto which we have taken on towards the end of the year is 21-4-60, meaning we have 21 guys competing '4' 60 minutes," Steele said.

Nordic teams send skiers to nationals

CONTINUED FROM 20

UVM was knocked out of the top spot despite taking the individual win; it was Dartmouth who placed first in the team scores. Captain Christine Schozer '13 notched another top-10 result, again leading the Panthers with an eighth place finish. First-years Katelyn Barclay '15 and Mary Sackbauer '15 completed the Panthers' scoring contingent in 18th and 29th places, respectively. With three skiers in the top-30, the lady Panthers scored a sixth place team finish.

After the first day of racing, UVM was sitting in first, Dartmouth was in second, and Middlebury had a slim lead over UNH for third.

Back on the cross-country trails, the Nordic skiers contested a 15/20km classic mass start race in some slow and sloppy new snow. In the women's race, UVM picked up where they left off on the first day of competition, taking first and third and the top team

score. Pokorny continued her impressive rookie season by taking seventh place, a season's best finish for the lady Panthers. Fellow first-years Heather Mooney '15 and Hall also produced solid results, finishing up their first regular seasons in 17th and 23rd places respectively. The Panthers ended their year with a fifth place team finish.

In the men's classic race, Johnson collected another win to demonstrate that he is the best skier in the east, and will be a force to reckon with in the upcoming NCAA championships.

Dartmouth won the top team score by taking second through fourth places. Lustgarten had another great race to take eighth place, but the next Middlebury skier was senior Taylor Sundali '12 in 42nd. The male Panthers finished their regular season tied with UVM for second place.

Over on the Snow Bowl trails, the Alpine skiers raced a giant slalom (GS). With the

chairlift back in operation, there was nothing to stop UVM from continuing their winning ways. In the women's race, UVM took the top two spots of the podium and the top team score. First-years Barclay and Yina Moe-Lange '15 stepped up their games for the last race of the regular season to place 11th and 12th, respectively. Schozer was not far behind in 15th place, and the lady Panthers picked up a season best fourth place team score.

In the men's GS race, UVM was again in top form, placing three skiers in the top four and collecting their sixth team score victory of the weekend. Roberts continued his impressive season, leading the Panthers with a fifth place finish. Bailey and Mulhern had solid races to finish back-to-back in ninth and 10th places. The male Panthers ended their regular season with a third place team score, a mere three points out of second place.

LOVE THE GAME

There is a moment before each race, where the crowd goes silent and all I can hear is my own heartbeat in my ears. It is in this moment that I know there is nothing else that can be done except to swim my race. I have swum competitively for 13 years but the nerves in this quiet yet somehow serene moment never fade away. I know that I swim better when I am relaxed and having fun, but they are still there. Nerves got to me this year, and although I had many great races, I had one race where I psyched myself out. It hurt, and my time was much slower than I had swum it just eight hours earlier. It was extremely discouraging but I knew that I had to get over the one bad swim to focus on the rest.

While attempting to focus on the races to come, I realized that sometimes I really do get caught up in the hype of the competition and in my own success or failures. A few humbling swims brought me to consider why it is that we put ourselves through two hours of swimming seven times a week. We swim Div. III and while there are extremely talented and amazing athletes, it is highly unlikely that anyone will go to the Olympics and professional swimming does not exist. So why swim?

Part of it is the love of the sport. I have swum for 13 years of my life. I do not actually know what I would do otherwise. I have made best friends on the swim team, creating relationships that have been the foundation for my childhood. The pool is a comfort to me. Yes, practice is most of the time extremely hard and the last thing I want to do with my afternoon, but it relaxes me. Focusing for two hours completely on something else alleviates any stress that I might have in school or in other parts of my life. While parts of swimming are social, it also provides a time to yourself; under the water you are only with yourself which provides time in a hectic college life to just have a few hours to yourself.

I also firmly believe that for most people the skills gained through competing in a college sport at the Div. III level are skills that are extremely valuable later on in life. The determination and the persistence that athletes must have are extremely important qualities for any aspect of life. Teams may not always win, and you may not always get faster, but sticking with it and continuing to practice can give athletes a toughness of mind which I believe is truly valuable later on in life.

On a more practical level, through swimming I have had to become extremely efficient at managing my time. As with many student-athletes, finishing homework and getting to sleep at a reasonable hour do not always go hand in hand. I have had to learn how exactly to do all my homework, go to practice and get to bed in time to be able to compete to my full potential. Procrastination is just not really a viable option.

However important my love for the sport is and the skills I gain through continuing to compete, the most important part for me is that it is fun. I think that people forget that it is supposed to be fun to compete and to spend time with your team. I have found that I swim the best when I am enjoying myself and think that sometimes people get caught up in getting their best times and performing to what they believe is their best abilities. They forget to have fun. The moments of my swimming career that I take away are not when I swim well, but the moments I have spent cheering on my teammates, dressing up together as a team and having fun with my friends. Yes, focus is necessary and swimming well does make it more fun, but the friends and memories I have made along the way are what is the most important part. I think that this fact oftentimes is lost amidst the competition and the politics that are inevitably part of any sport.

At the end of our four years here, I will be done with swimming and I want to be able to take away from it not four years of struggling to get faster, but an amazing four years spent doing the sport I love, gaining qualities I know will help me further down the road in my life and making memories that I know will stay with me forever.

Alex Edel '14 is a sports editor from Pacific Palisades, Ca.

Skiing turns in solid showing at home races

By Martin Breu

The Panthers closed out their regular ski season with a tie for third place in their home carnival on Feb. 25. University of Vermont finished their season like they started it, on the top of the podium, while Dartmouth was second again. Middlebury held a slim four point lead over University of New Hampshire after the first day of racing, but the Wildcats had a strong second day to finish the weekend tied with the Panthers for third.

The highlight of the weekend was the 11 Panthers who qualified for the NCAA Championship, held March 7-10 in Bozeman, Mont. The men's Alpine team led the way with five qualifiers – Andrew McNealus '13 and captain Bryan Shpall '13, and Hig Roberts '14, Nick Bailey '14 and Liam Mulhern '14. Unfortunately, since only three skiers from each school can attend, Shpall, McNealus and Roberts were chosen to represent Middlebury.

The men's Nordic team was next, qualifying three skiers – tri-captains Patrick Johnson '12 and Chase Marston '12 as well as Ben Lustgarten '14. Women's Nordic also impressed by qualifying two

skiers – senior co-captain Sophie McClelland '11.5 and first-year Annie Pokorny '15. Christine Schozer '13, captain of the women's Alpine team, was rewarded for her strong and consistent skiing all season with the lone qualification spot for her team.

The weekend's Alpine races were held at the Middlebury Snow Bowl, while the Nordic races were moved from Middlebury's Rikert Ski Center to the Trapp Family Lodge in Stowe. The weekend's snow made for some soft and slow conditions, but the races went off without a hitch despite some mechanical problems with the Snow Bowl lift on Friday.

The Middlebury Carnival began with a 5/10km freestyle race for the Nordic skiers. UVM set the tone for the weekend in the women's race by taking the top two spots and the top team score.

First-year standout Pokorny led the Panther scoring contingent by finishing eighth, tying her season's best placing. Fellow first-year Rachel Hall '15 continued to impress with a 13th place finish, while co-captain Sophie McClelland '11.5 was just outside the top-20 in 21st. The lady Panthers were rewarded

for their strong racing with an impressive third place team finish, tying their season's best placing.

In the men's freestyle race, Johnson continued his dominance of the Eastern collegiate circuit with a commanding 26-second win in the 10km freestyle race. Fellow tri-captain Chase Marston '12 produced another top-10 performance with an eighth place tie, while Ben Lustgarten '14 just missed out on the top-10 in 11th place. The Middlebury men ended the first day of racing with a third place finish, just one point behind Dartmouth in second.

Over on the slopes of the Snow Bowl, the weekend kicked off with a slalom race for the Alpine skiers. In the men's race, UVM continued their dominance of the carnival by taking the top two spots of the podium and capturing the top team score. Captain Shpall led his team with an impressive sixth place, while the Panther's top performer Roberts was right behind in eighth. Bailey grabbed another top-15 finish, with 14th place, and the Panther men finished third in the team competition.

In the women's slalom race, SEE NORDIC, PAGE 19



COURTESY: STELLA HOLT

Men's Nordic tri-captain Doug Debold '12 races in the 10K skate race during last weekend's competition, held at the Trapp Lodge in Stowe, Vt., rather than Rikert due to the lack of snow.

Women's hockey cruises to semifinal



ANDREW PODRYGULA

The Panthers scored all five of their goals in the second period of the NESCAC quarterfinal, including four in a quick four-minute span.

By Mike Oster

The Middlebury women's hockey team topped the Colby Mules in their NESCAC semifinal match-up this past Saturday, Feb. 24. The Panthers had last seen the Mules back in November, when Middlebury took two wins in a double-header weekend.

The first period saw extremely competitive play, as both teams failed to capitalize on scoring opportunities. Jennifer Krakower '14 almost put Middlebury on the board early, but her shot deflected off the goal post. After a power play for Colby and a close shot by Middlebury's Madison Styrbicki '13, the period ended at 0-0.

Middlebury took control

of the game in the second time frame, capitalizing on Colby penalties to surge to a commanding lead. The first goal of the match came just over three minutes into the period: Maggie Woodward '13 found the back of the net during a power play for her ninth goal of the season. Later in the period, the Panthers were up five skaters to three as they began an offensive that resulted in four goals in four minutes.

"We left the first period tied 0-0, but our team came out in the second period with a sense of urgency that resulted in five goals," said Styrbicki. Woodward scored first off an assist from Lauren Greer '13 for her

SEE PANTHERS, PAGE 18

Men's basketball comeback falls short in NESCAC Finals

By Damon Hatheway

The men's basketball team advanced to its fourth consecutive NESCAC title game Saturday, falling to Amherst after downing Wesleyan the day before in the conference semifinals. Middlebury is 2-2 in its four appearances.

Ignited by a defensive renaissance in their NESCAC Quarterfinals win over Williams, the Panthers continued their strong play on the defensive end with a dominant 74-52 win over Wesleyan. The Cardinals – the conference's third seed – and the second-seeded Panthers jockeyed for the lead in the first half. After more than 16 minutes of play in which neither team led by more than four points the Panthers went on a 16-2 run to end the first half, heading into the intermission with a 42-27 lead. The run was sparked by four consecutive threes from the Panthers, as captains Nolan Thompson '13 and Ryan Sharry '12 hit triples, while Jake Wolfen '13 led the surge with two three pointers. Joey Kizel '14 capped the run at the rim as the half expired, laying the ball in to give the Panthers a 15-point lead. At the half Middlebury held Wesleyan to 37 percent shooting from the floor while shooting better than 50 percent as a team.

The Middlebury momentum did not carry over into the second half, however, as Wesleyan cut the Panthers' lead to six with nine consecutive points after the break. Peter Lynch '13 halted the hail of Cardinal points with a jumper, extending his team's lead back to eight points. Over the next 10 minutes Middlebury built a 20-point lead – catalyzed by a key stretch from sophomore reserve Nate Bulluck '14 who scored nine points in seven minutes, all of

which came from the free throw line.

"We were really excited about [Bulluck's] contribution," said head coach Jeff Brown. "Getting to the line five times and shooting nine for 10 from the free throw line in the second half certainly was a big key in us opening up that game. Nate is a very athletic player and we were able to take advantage of his athleticism and his size against a smaller Wesleyan back court."

Sharry, meanwhile, recorded his 14th double-double of the season, with a game-high 18 points, 14 rebounds, three assists and three blocks. Thompson and Wolfen added 12 and 10 respectively, while Kizel had nine points, seven assists and two steals.

Following their waxing of Wesleyan, the Panthers found themselves facing a familiar foe in hosts Amherst. Wary of repeating a slow start that gift-wrapped the Lord Jeffs an early 15-point lead in the regular season matchup, Jeff Brown's team took an early 13-7 lead after Sharry and Kizel knocked down consecutive triples.

Early foul trouble stagnated the Middlebury offense, however, as Sharry picked up two quick fouls to secure himself a spot on the bench. In his absence, Amherst attacked the basket, taking a 19-13 lead following a 12-0 run. With the Lord Jeffs threatening to blow the game wide open, the Panthers' captain returned, pulling the visitors within one before picking up his third foul. With its leader on the bench for the remainder of the half, Middlebury's struggles on the offensive end continued. The Lord Jeffs took full advantage of the Panthers' miscues, ending the half on a 7-0 run to extend their lead to 36-26 at the half.

The intermission did not solve Middlebury's woes, though, as

Amherst opened up a 15-point lead midway through the second half. After two free throws from Lord Jeffs' guard Aaron Toomey matched Amherst's largest lead at 56-41 with 9:36 left in the game, Middlebury finally made its push.

Kizel scored five straight points for the Panthers, including a three-point play following one of the best defensive plays of the year. After knocking down a pair of free throws, the feisty guard picked Toomey's pocket as the Amherst star crossed half court. Kizel then weaved his way back to the basket for the and-one, cutting the Amherst advantage to 10.

"[Kizel] just picks his spot and

SEE MEN'S BASKETBALL, PAGE 17



COURTESY: ANDREW RIBNER, WESLEYAN ARGUS

Joey Kizel '14 drives the lane in Middlebury's 74-52 win over Wesleyan on Saturday.

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